







3 1833 03283 1262

Gc 974.402 N424t  
Turner, Hadley K.  
A history of New Marlborough

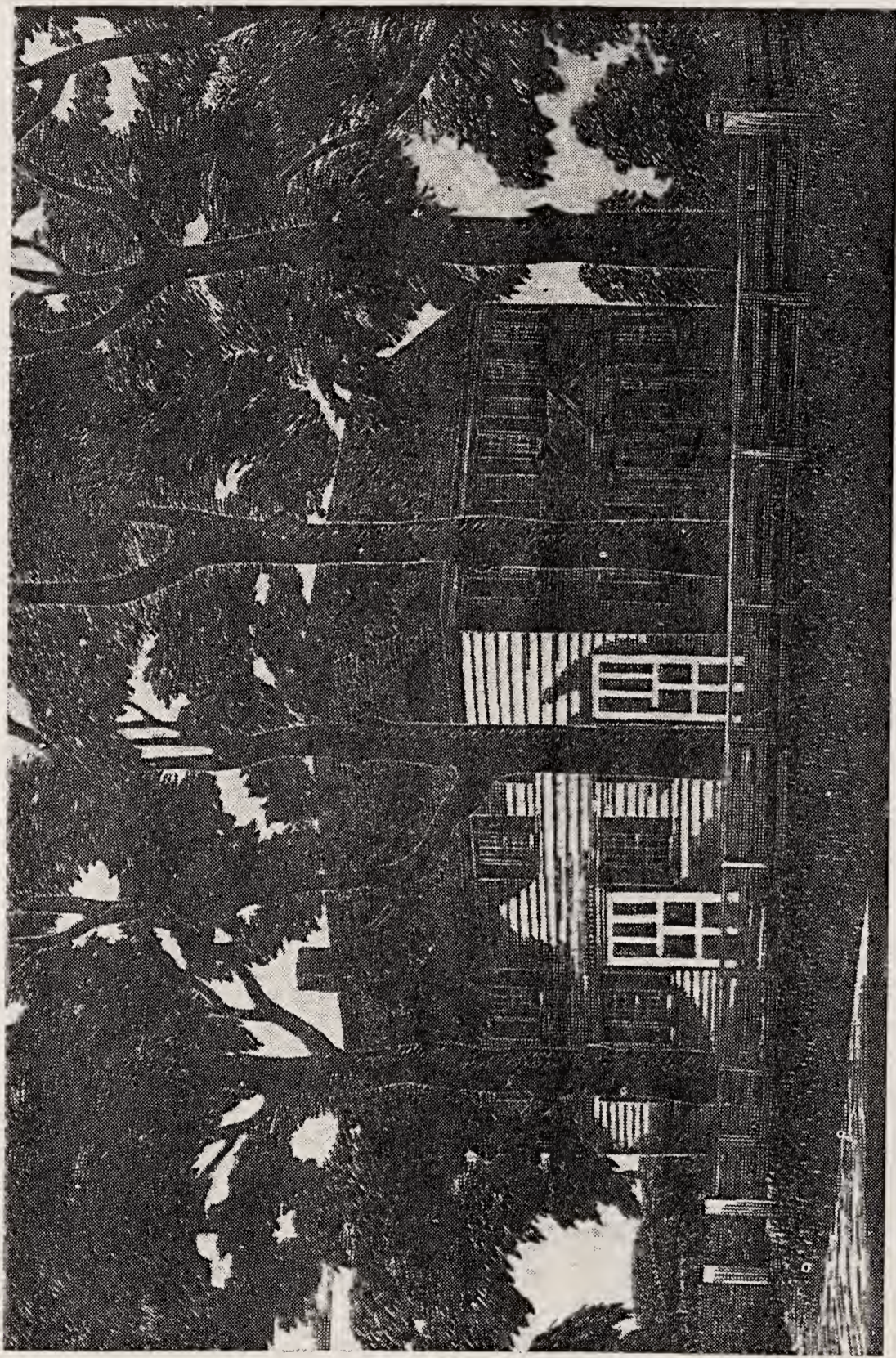
✓



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2019

<https://archive.org/details/historyofnewmarl00turn>





THE CATLIN HOUSE

*From a wood-cut by Janet C. Ticknor*

*A History*  
OF  
*New Marlborough*

BY  
HADLEY K. TURNER

1944



WRITTEN FOR THE TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
NEW MARLBOROUGH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
THE ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
SOUTHFIELD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
AND THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
HARTSVILLE METHODIST CHURCH

F74

N53

T8

Allen County Public Library  
900 Webster Street  
PO Box 2270  
Fort Wayne, IN 46801-2270

PRINTED BY  
THE BERKSHIRE COURIER  
GREAT BARRINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS  
1944

To "LEBASI NEFF,"  
LONG-SUFFERING HELPER OF THE  
APOTHEOSIS OF SHIFTLESSNESS,  
THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED.

## Acknowledgments

The writer is greatly indebted to many people for facts about New Marlborough. The following books were very helpful: *A History of the Town of New Marlborough* by Rev. Harley Goodwin, 1829; *History of Western Massachusetts*, chapter by Josiah Holland, 1855; *Gazetteer of Berkshire County, Mass.*, 1725-1885; *Town of New Marlborough*, Professor S. T. Frost; and *In New Marlborough*, a series of letters published in the *Berkshire Gleaner* by Henry M. White; Miss Caroline C. Cook, scrap-book of *Berkshire Courier* items.

But of the greatest assistance of all was the book by Harry D. Sisson which is an everlasting well of information on New Marlborough.

THE AUTHOR

Among the author's ancestors were the following early New Marlborough settlers: Benjamin Wheeler (1739), Jesse Taylor (1741), Seth Norton (1745), Moses Harmon (1745).

THE EDITOR

## Foreword

THE credit for suggesting the joint celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of the New Marlborough Church, the one hundred and fiftieth of the Southfield Congregational Church, and the one hundredth of the Hartsville Church is due to the Rev. Arthur Aborn Simmons, present pastor of the Southfield and Mill River Congregational churches, who is also serving the Clayton Chapel and the New Marlborough congregation.

Mr. Simmons was born in Grafton, Mass., September 5, 1880. He graduated from Worcester Academy in 1901, from Harvard University in 1905 with an A.B. degree, and from Andover-Harvard Theological School in 1915 with a B.D. degree. His first pastorate was at Montvail Congregational Church in Woburn (1912-1917). When the first World War stirred the nation he joined the Y. M. C. A. as a worker in Russia and continued in this work with Russians, not only in that country but in Egypt and Germany as well, from 1917 to 1922. From 1922 to 1924 he was associate pastor of Elliott Congregational Church in Roxbury. He was pastor of Wilmington Congregational Church 1924-1939. From 1939 to 1944 he was pastor of the Federated Church of Charlemont, Mass.

Mrs. Arthur A. Simmons was born Clara Hahn Olmstead, in Manchester, N. Y., February 4, 1882. She was educated in St. Paul, (Minn.) High School, and studied at Radcliffe College from 1900 to 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Simmons were married in London, England, in 1908. During World War I Mrs. Simmons was with the Y. M. C. A. canteen service in France with the Second Division, U. S. A., which was a combat division. During Mr. Simmons' pastorate at Wilmington she wrote the pageant celebrating the two hundredth anniversary of her husband's church. During her husband's pastorate at Charlemont she collaborated with Mrs. A. P. Harris in writing a pageant to celebrate the one hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of her husband's church. She has now written the pageant in connection with the celebration of the anniversaries of the New Marlborough churches.

Our Lady of the Valley Rectory

Sheffield, Mass., August 3, 1944

Rev. Arthur Simmons,  
Southfield, Mass.

Your Reverence:

It is a singular and blessed privilege for me to extend to you and your parishioners of the New Marlborough and Southfield Congregational Churches the sincerest hopes of the Catholics of Sheffield, New Marlborough and Monterey that this jubilee year, the two hundredth anniversary and the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of these churches, respectively, may be a golden year in their history.

In terms of American history your churches enjoy a venerable antiquity of which you may very justly boast. In such a glorious jubilee year I think the thought that should command our attention is that of the pioneers who founded, on such solid foundations, your churches, involving great sacrifice and struggle, and their successors in the two centuries which followed. Yours is a rich heritage. You and your good people will maintain the high ideals and noble standards of your predecessors of the past two centuries. If there is one outstanding tradition handed down through these years, I think it is the fine spirit of Christian charity that has marked the very life of this community. May it grow fuller and stronger in the years to come!

"May God bless you and your parishioners," is my prayer this glorious Jubilee Year.

Very sincerely yours,

Rev. Richard J. Dee  
Our Lady of the Valley Church.

## *The Settlement of the Town*

**A**T the Great and General Court of Massachusetts Bay which sat at Boston, May 28th, 1735, Edmund Quincy, Esq., from the committee of both houses, made the following report:

“That there be four towns opened upon the road betwixt Westfield and Sheffield; . . . that they be six miles square and as near said road as the land will allow: That there be sixty-three house lots, of sixty acres each, laid out in each township. . . one of which shall be for the first settled minister, one for the second, one for the School and one for each grantee, who shall draw equal shares in all future divisions; that said grantees shall appear and give surety to the value of forty pounds to perform all things on their lots which had been required by the court of grantees between the Connecticut and Merrimac rivers and that a committee of five be appointed. . . to bring forward the lines of the townships. . . .”

At the time that Edmund Quincy made this report the Indian Chief Umpachene and four other Indian families were living on a tract of land which they called Ska-tee-hook, on the west side of the “Housatunnuk” river, between a brook they called Mau-nau-fe-con (probably Schenob brook) and the river they called Waum-pa-nik-see-poot (now Green river). Their western boundary was the New York line. The Indians had reserved this triangular tract of land in 1724 when they sold the land to the Sheffield settlers.

Eight or ten families of Indians lived in “the Great Meadow” of the Housatonic in the town of Stockbridge. Here Konkapot, the principal Indian, resided. He had just been honored by Governor Belcher with a captain’s commission, and Umpachene had been made a commissioned lieutenant, in the Provincial Militia. (Later they were to lead a company of their Indians in many battles.)

The desire of Konkapot to be instructed in Christianity had led to the establishment of a mission to the Indians the previous

year, 1734, headed by Mr. John Sergeant. Records refer to families of Indians who left New Marlborough and moved to Stockbridge to be able to get the instruction of the new missionary but do not mention such Indians by name. But the Indian Burying-Ground on what is now the Ranolde farm (formerly known as the Smith farm or Konkapot Mills) bears quiet and permanent testimony to the fact that several Indian families lived here prior to the coming of the white settlers. [See footnote 1.]

What probably happened was that most of the Indian families moved to Stockbridge some time between 1734 and 1744, as it was during that period that an attempt was being made to draw them all together under the supervision of Mr. Sergeant and his four white mission families. Due to this movement the group under Umpachene finally moved to Stockbridge, selling their "reserved" land in Sheffield to the settlers. But one family of Indians refused to give up the "happy hunting grounds" of New Marlborough. "Old Anthony" and his family stayed on. There were twelve or thirteen white families in Sheffield, two or three in Egremont, and about eight in Great Barrington. Some of the latter town were "Dutch," having "come over the mountain." Some of their names were VanValkenburgh, VanDeusen, Burghardt, Hogoboom. These were the only white settlers in Berkshire in 1735. There were no roads into the Housatonic valley. The settlers had either come up the river or over Indian trails. But now the Massachusetts Bay "Great and General Court" desired to build a road to the Housatonic valley from the Connecticut valley, partly to promote further settlements in the valley of the Housatonic and partly to have a connecting road between Boston and Albany. The French and Indian wars were in the making, and a good and protected road from one end of the colony to the other seemed necessary. [See footnote 2.]

On June twenty-fourth, 1737, the necessary surveying had been accomplished. Tyringham (called number one) New Marlborough (number two), Sandisfield (number three), and Becket (number four), were confirmed to the grantees. The original grantees admitted into number two (New Marlborough) township were Caleb Rice and fifty-nine associates. (Not until June 15, 1759, was number two incorporated as a township under the name New Marlborough.)

The evident purpose of the General Court in establishing the four towns between Westfield and Sheffield seems to have been to afford protection for the new highway, called "The Great Road," between the Connecticut and the Housatonic valleys. This new road was to come directly over the hills and would need the protection of settlers along its far stretches. It would be up to them to repair washouts, keep bridges in repair, clear the snow-drifts, and afford travellers protection from any unfriendly Indians—in short, keep the road passable and protected.

This was all part of a general plan to open and establish a colonial road between Boston and Albany. The road became of immediate military importance in the French and Indian wars and continued so to be during the Revolution. Lord Howe marched his men over the road in an effort to take Ticonderoga in 1758. The expedition was a failure and Lord Howe was killed in the battle.

It is the writer's belief that the real purpose back of building the road was to forward this expedition. [See footnote 10.] Later, in 1759, General Amherst's expedition against Ticonderoga marched over "the Great Road." General Amherst was more successful and captured "Old Ti" from the French. The captured army of Burgoyne was sent to Boston by this way during the Revolution. The cannon from Ticonderoga were hauled over this road for the siege of Boston, and so the "Great Road" may probably be credited with a large share in the winning of that war.

In 1851 all that part of New Marlborough lying north of Dry Hill was set off to Monterey, by which we lost old friends and our direct contact with the "Great Road." (In 1871 the town regained its balance by having land from Sheffield, embracing a part of the Konkapot valley and Clayton village (East Sheffield) added to New Marlborough.)

Most of the Proprietors to whom the township was granted in 1736 were from Marlborough, Mass., and its vicinity, in Middlesex county. These Proprietors obtained the township from the Indians by deed, and the deed was confirmed by the General Court. The land was divided into house lots of approximately sixty acres each. There were sixty-three house lots besides one each for every grantee, or 135 in all. Three of the sixty-three lots were reserved for public property, one for the first settled

minister, one for the second settled minister, and one for the schools. In other words, part of the township was held for later divisions.

The first improvements on the land of New Marlborough were made in 1739 by Mr. Benjamin Wheeler, from Marlborough. In the words of previous historians: "During the winter 1739-'40, a memorable hard winter, Mr. Wheeler remained the only white inhabitant in town and continued to fell the forest."

"About one mile north-west of New Marlborough center, on the road to Great Barrington, by the right bank of Anthony Brook (so named from the last Indian resident of its valley) is the place first occupied in this town as a white man's abode," wrote Professor Frost. "Here Mr. Benjamin Wheeler passed that first winter alone, no white man nearer than Sheffield, ten miles away." During the winter some of the Sheffield people came to visit Wheeler, on snow-shoes, and left proof of their friendship.

A family of Indians lived near the outlet of "Six Mile Pond" (Lake Buel). They forbade Wheeler the use of his gun that winter lest he should kill the deer. Indians had a special word for winter deer-hunting, "pontoosuck," and believed in protecting the deer during the winter "yarding" season, the time that the deer habitually all come together in "deer yards," where they would stay in one big herd during the heavy storms, keeping the snow packed hard under foot and each other safe. For such yarding they usually chose big meadows adjacent to running water. That is why the Indians called the site of Pittsfield "Pontoosuck." The writer has seen such a deer yard in the Adirondacks.

The next summer Mr. Wheeler went back to Marlborough and returned with his family. He built himself a house on the site of the tiny cabin in which he passed the first winter. The Wheeler homestead remained in the family for 140 years, through five generations of direct descent. Four of the five owners bore the name of Benjamin Wheeler.

Other first settlers came as follows: Noah Church, Jabez Ward, Thomas Tattlow, Elias Keyes, Joseph Blackmer, Jesse Taylor, William Witt, John Taylor, and Philip Brookins, from

Marlborough and vicinity in 1741. Samuel Bryan came, some time previous to 1744, from Marlborough.

In 1744, Joseph Adams, Moses Cleveland, Silas Freeman; in 1745, Charles Adams, Solomon Raynsford and Jarvis Pike came from Canterbury, Conn.

Asa Sheldon and family, and others by the name of Wright and Allen, arrived from Northampton about 1745.

Also in 1745 Ezra Sheldon, Seth Norton and Moses Harmon came with their families from Suffield, Conn.

William Alexander and John Thompson, natives of Ireland, came here from Dedham in 1746, apparently disproving the claim that Timothy Wrinkle was our first Irish resident.

In 1760 came families by the name of Bullard and Rawson from Mendon, Mass. It is said that Bullard and Rawson were two of seven men who jumped overboard from a British man-of-war. Five were shot in the water. Bullard and Rawson escaped, living three months on roots and berries. This Benjamin Bullard settled "over the mountain," on the "Great Road," in the part of the town later ceded to Monterey, near the Harmons.

In 1735 John Collar arrived in town. He served two campaigns as an officer in the Continental Army as Lieutenant-colonel in Colonel Ashley's regiment. (Colonel Ashley owned and operated an iron works at the falls of the Housatonic, in what is now the village of Ashley Falls.)

In 1754 Eben Smith (afterwards Captain of Revolutionary fame), Gershom Howe, Timothy Rober and William Keyes all owned lots contiguous to the south line of the town, on the Connecticut line.

The following from the register of marriages in the vital statistics are names of young married people, most of whom made new homes in the town in the first ten years of its settlement: Rev. Thomas and Elizabeth Strong, John and Abigail Gillette, Elihu and Rachel Wright, Asa and Thankful Sheldon, Jesse and Mary Taylor, Isaac and Mary Chamberlain, Ebenezer and Anna Hall, Elias and Sarah Keyes, Charles and Judith Adams, Asa and Miriam Hammon, Jehiel and Susan Brooks, Jarvis and Sarah Pike, Samuel and Elizabeth Norton, Stephen and Martha Rice, John and Lydia Shaw, Simeon and Mary Hammon, Solomon

Raynsford and wife, Joseph and Miriam Adams, and Nathan and Elizabeth Harmon.

"There were a few Indians," writes Professor Frost, "that lingered on in the town after the settlement of the whites. The best-known of these was "Old Anthony," who had his cabin and garden patch where the brook that bears his name joins the Konkapot." This is the same brook on which Mr. Wheeler built his cabin. At the first drawing of lots, Wheeler drew number twenty-five, which remained in the family until about 1872.

On August twenty-fifth, 1737, Nahum Ward, Esq., of Shrewsbury, was appointed by the House of Representatives to assemble the Proprietors on November 29th at the Inn of Jonothan Howe, in Marlborough, Mass. At that meeting Nahum Ward and Colonel Ephriam Williams were appointed a committee to petition the House. On the very next day they presented to his excellency, Jonothan Belcher, a petition setting forth "that they had paid into the hands of the honorable committee of the court £1,200 for defraying the expenses of surveying said township and for other necessary charges, and for the purpose of cultivating a good agreement with the Indian owners of said land; and that there might be no grounds for uneasiness, they had purchased said lands of Tap-hen-han-new-ka, alias Konkapot, chief of the Housatonic tribe, and sundry other Indians, which deed is duly executed and acknowledged, the consideration being three hundred pounds and no tobacco or rum, which sum the proprietors had actually paid, making a total of \$7,500.00." They asked that the Konkapot deed be approved and fully ratified. [See footnote 7.]

On the seventh of the following December (1737), the House voted that the deed from the Housatonic Indians "be and hereby is, fully allowed and approved of, to all intents and purposes and also that a further grant of eleven thousand acres be made to the grantees of said township upon condition that seven more families be added." Hence the second division.

On October 31, 1738, the Proprietors held a meeting in the Inn of Widow Sarah Howe, in Marlborough. A committee was chosen to make arrangements to raise a grist-mill in Number Two (New Marlborough). In June, 1739, a contract was made with Nathan Ward to build both a grist-mill and saw-mill on "Iron

Works River," [see footnote 3] now called the Konkapot. In consideration of this service, Mr. Ward received one hundred and twenty pounds in money and fifty acres of land. Ward gave bonds of five hundred pounds to keep the mills in good order and repair for twelve years.

A grant of twenty acres was also made to Joseph Blackmer "to encourage him in raising a grist mill." At this meeting a cash appropriation was made for the purpose of raising "the town stock of powder, lead and flints." Apparently the protection of "the Great Road" was on their minds. The last vote at this meeting was to instruct the treasurer to "pay the shot to Landlady Howe," which was usually £1, 2s, 3d. [See footnote 8.]

Every border settlement had its log fortress for refuge and defense against possible Indian raids. In such a fort, built on what became known as "Leffingwell Hill," between New Marlborough and Mill River, occurred the first birth among the new settlers—twin children to Mr. and Mrs. Philip Brookins. Another early writer describes this fort as follows: "Near the Colonal Palmer homestead (later the Ogle estate) stood the colonial fort, on what has been known as Leffingwell Hill." (Not to be confused with Leffingwell Hill, so-called, between New Marlborough and Southfield.)

In 1741 Samuel Bryan, Noah Church, Jesse Taylor, Phineas Brown and Nathan Raynsford were appointed a committee to "locate a meeting-house," procure the ground for same and to raise the building. They located this important structure on lot number 22, after having procured from Adonijah Church a deed of three acres of land "for to set the meeting-house on." By vote of the Proprietors, the building was to be forty feet long and thirty-two feet wide, with a twenty-foot shed. "Probably the contract was let to one Thomas Tattilow," writes one early historian.

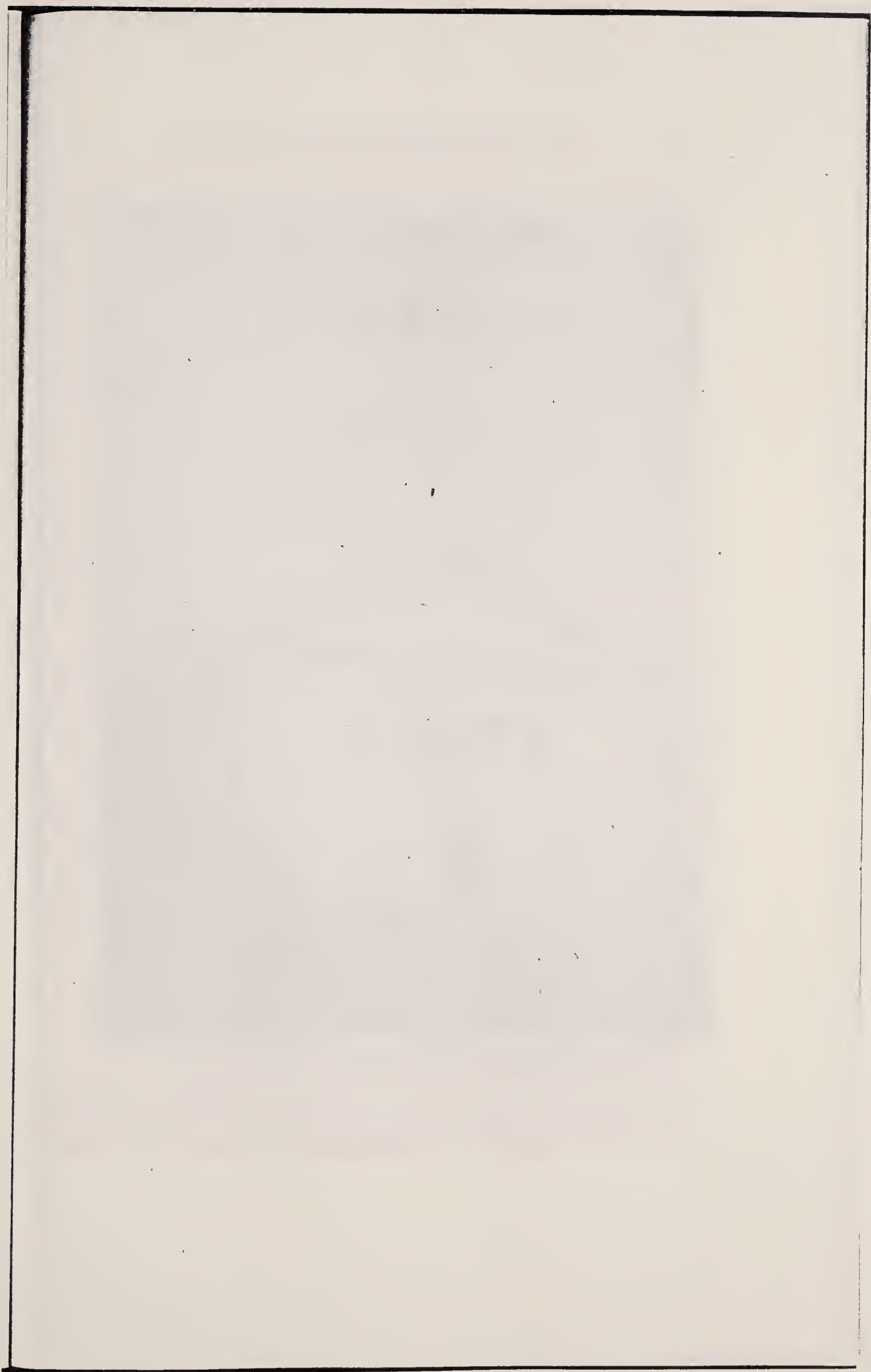
On July 17, 1744, the Proprietors being duly assembled at Widow Howe's Tavern, it was "voted, to accept the choice of the Inhabitants of Number Two (New Marlborough) of the Rev. Thomas Strong to settle in the work of the ministry in said township." (Notice that the Proprietors and the Inhabitants were two different sets of people. Apparently the people who bought and owned the land made arrangements with other people to clear it and do the actual settling, probably arranging with these

latter to buy the land they settled on as soon as they were able. However, in some cases the Proprietors were also settlers.) Mr. Strong was given an annual salary of fifty pounds "so long as he shall prove faithful."

"Prior to 1749 all Proprietors' meetings were held in Marlborough, Middlesex county, one hundred and twenty-five miles distant, on account of Indian troubles attending the first French and Indian war," writes one historian. But the writer is inclined to believe that the real reason was that nearly all those who were entitled to vote in such meetings, the Proprietors, actually lived in and around Marlborough, with few exceptions, during most of those early years. But on June 15, 1759, Number Two Township became legally New Marlborough. The first town meeting was held soon after. Jabez Ward, Solomon Raynsford and Jesse Taylor were chosen Selectmen; Elihu Wright, Town Clerk; Jesse Taylor, Treasurer; Zenas Wheeler (son of Benjamin), Clerk of the Market; Ozias Pike, Constable.

Although action to build a meeting-house had been taken by the Proprietors, the formal organizing of a church took place on October 31, 1744, by the inhabitants. On that day Moses Cleveland, Samuel Bryan, Jesse Taylor, William Witt and Joseph Adams actually organized themselves into the First New Marlborough Church. On the following day Thomas Strong of Northampton, graduate of Yale College in the class of 1740, was ordained pastor at a salary of fifty pounds. He was also given the use and disposal of the lot of land reserved for the first minister. Towards raising the salary a tax was paid for several years by the Proprietors of the township, "many of whom resided at a distance." Mr. Strong died August 23rd, 1777, in the 33rd year of his ministry, having received about one hundred and seventy persons into the church.

The earliest church record was written by Mr. Strong, and commences thus: "October ye thirty first, anno Domini 1744. There was a church gathered at New Marlborough, alias Number Two, and the Rev. Thomas Strong ordained to ye pastoral office there." Continuing the quotation: "Present the Rev. Messrs. Samuel Hopkins of Springfield, Moderator, Jonothan Hubbard of Springfield. Messengers: Samuel Day, Deacon Philip Calendar, Jonas Phelps."





THE NEW MARLBOROUGH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

About three years after his settlement in New Marlborough, Mr. Strong married Elizabeth Barnard of Stockbridge, who was a native of West Springfield. Her father was Joseph Barnard of Northampton and West Springfield. In the church record kept by Mr. Strong he mentions, under date of August 5, 1768, that a Copy of Henry's Commentaries, in six volumes, was brought to him to be lent out among the church members. These volumes were a legacy to the church from Mr. Thomas Tattilow of Marlborough in Middlesex County. A special messenger was sent, at the expense of the church, to receive the books and convey them safely to New Marlborough. After their arrival, the church voted that five volumes might be lent out to the members who might retain them one year each. One volume was to be kept by the pastor "to be delivered to any church member that should desire it to read in the intermission, in the meeting-house, on the Sabbath, and that the person who receives it [see footnote 4] shall return it after the service, at night." In this way the books did good service for more than forty years.

Under date of March 8, 1760, the church "voted that they would admit parents and adult persons owning to a confession of Faith and the Covenant and upon their doing it, parents may have the privilege of Baptism for their children and adult persons for themselves."

The Rev. Caleb Alexander, D.D., native of Northfield and graduate of Yale College, 1777, was ordained February 28, 1782. During his ministry he induced the church to discontinue the "half-way covenant" and receive none but those who gave evidence of "being renewed in the Spirit of their minds." [See footnote 5.] He was allotted the second ministerial lot. "After his dismission, and previous to the settlement of his successor, about fifty were gathered into the church." These were the first fruits of a revival which took place under "occasional" preaching. Dr. Alexander later became Preceptor of the Academy at Onandago Hollow, N. Y., where he died in April, 1828.

Before accepting his call, Mr. Alexander presented a "Constitution of Church Government" which was thoroughly Congregational, a Confession of Faith, and a form of Church Covenant, all of which was adopted by vote of the church, September 28, 1780. Mr. Alexander was dismissed June 28, 1782.

The Rev. Jacob Catlin, D.D., of Harwinton, Connecticut, graduated at Yale College in 1784. He was ordained July 4th, 1787. We wish we knew why the Fourth of July was chosen for his ordination. Both the day and the year seem important. The day must have been revered then, as now, because, just eleven years before, the Declaration of Independence had been signed by Massachusetts' own John Hancock, President of the Congress. The year, 1787, was that of Shays' rebellion, which means that Mr. Catlin came to town at the height of the severe depression which followed the Revolutionary war. Since Shays' rebellion was but lately over, and since the South Berkshire region had played such an important part in it, could it be that the day was purposely chosen to suggest to the new parish that Mr. Catlin was a friend to the Federalists, the party of Hamilton, Washington and Adams, rather than to those who followed Patrick Henry? Did Mr. Catlin, in other words, wish to show his disapproval of the deeds of Shays' followers?

History shows that the Congregationalists were the chief prop of the Federalist party, whereas the Baptists, Methodists and Presbyterians supported Patrick Henry. Shays' rebellion was merely an active manifestation of policies Patrick Henry was attempting to bring into being by legal methods. The clash of the Sheffield and Great Barrington volunteers with Shays' insurgents near South Egremont had stirred up much trouble. The minister of the Congregational church in Egremont openly sided with the Federalists. His parishioners included many of the soldiers of the Revolution whose notes were so greatly devalued. These men were among Shays' followers. As a result the minister at Egremont was dismissed, as was also the minister at Alford. The church at Egremont remained destitute of a pastor for the next thirty years, feeling ran so high. So Mr. Catlin came to his parish at a touchy time. Perhaps he wished to identify himself with the forces of law and order (the Federalists) and chose to do so at a moment when the upsurge of patriotism resulting from the celebration of the Declaration of Independence would give him the best chance of doing so with the least resentment from his parishioners.

It has been written of Doctor Catlin that "his characteristics were industry, patience, frankness, meekness, and that his

intellect was adapted to reasoning and investigation rather than to description. His religious views were Calvinistic. He preached on 'doctrines of grace' with much success." We are inclined to think that the writer should have added that the doctor was a smart, practical psychologist, in view of his choice of the Fourth of July for his ordination. The quotation continues: "Dr. Catlin published a work on Theology entitled *Catlin's Compendium*, which does honor to his understanding and to his heart. During his ministry 250 persons were added to the church."

One of Dr. Catlin's first acts was to prepare another creed and covenant which were adopted in place of those presented by his predecessor. He remained the pastor thirty-nine years, until his death, April 12, 1826. During his ministry the first United States Congress met in New York; the French Revolution was fought; Washington, John Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, and John Quincy Adams had served as Presidents; Ethan Allen had probably been to New Marlborough to visit his first-cousin of the same name; Paul Revere had formed Cincinnatus Lodge of the Masonic order; Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr had fought a duel; the second United States war with Great Britain had been fought; the first American steamboat had crossed the Atlantic. Those were famous times.

The Rev. Harley Goodwin had been ordained as a colleague of Dr. Catlin, January 4, 1826. At the death of Dr. Catlin, Mr. Goodwin became the pastor. Mr. Goodwin wrote the first history of New Marlborough, for which the present author is greatly in his debt. During his ministry 61 persons were admitted to the Church. He remained pastor eleven years and was dismissed July 5, 1837.

Other pastors have been Rev. Chester Fitch, Rev. Richard T. Searle, Rev. C. C. Painter, Rev. S. Gale who was dismissed in 1879. From that time until June, 1884, the pulpit was supplied by Principal S. T. Frost of the South Berkshire Institute.

We are indebted to Mr. John Searle, now living in Norfolk, Conn., for this interesting sketch of his grandfather, Rev. Richard Thurston Searle, born April 2, 1814, died June 30, 1880. He was the son of Stephen and Mary Jewett Searle of Rowley, Mass. He graduated from Phillips Academy, Andover, in 1832; from Union College in 1836; from Andover Theological Seminary

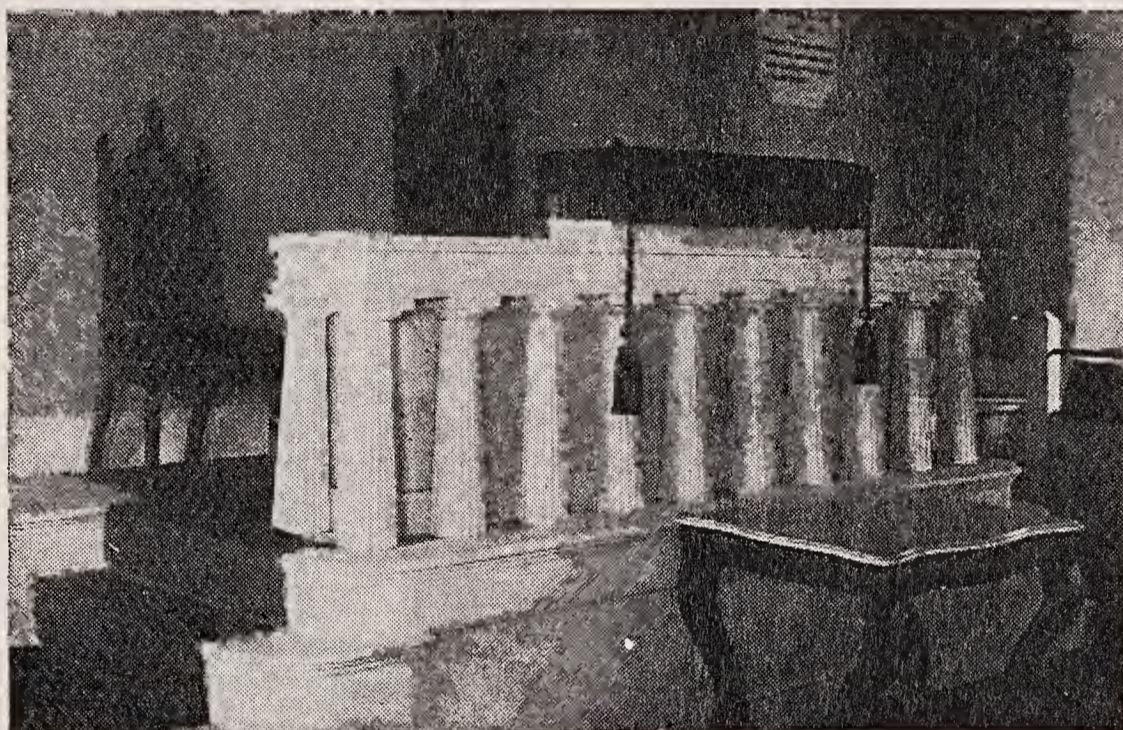
about 1838. On December 22, 1847, he married Emily A. Putnam, the daughter of Col. Jesse and Elizabeth Merian Putnam. Rev. and Mrs. Searle had three children: Walter Jewett, February 10, 1851; Charles Putnam, July 21, 1854; Alonzo Thurston, September 13, 1856. The above-mentioned Charles Searle was a trustee of the New Marlborough cemetery, and was the father of John.

The church records indicate that the pulpit was "supplied" by various preachers between 1884 and 1893, at which time Rev. A. W. Field began preaching regularly, but it does not appear that he was ever "settled" as minister. In 1898 Rev. E. C. Gillette became the pastor and served until 1902. He was followed by W. E. Streeter. In 1907 the church was being "supplied" again.

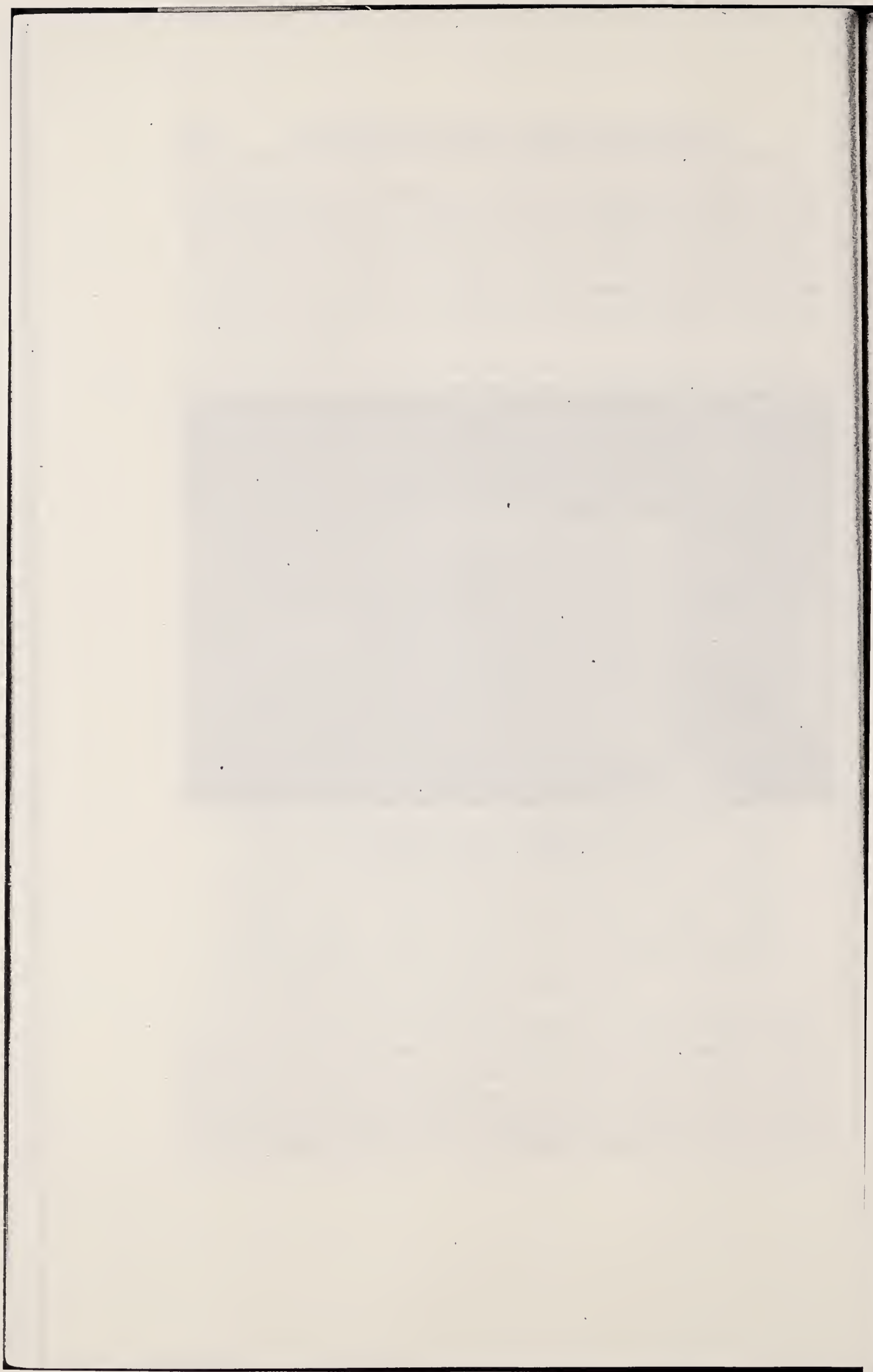
In December 28, 1910, the New Marlborough church became incorporated under the laws of Massachusetts, under the name of "The First Congregational Church of New Marlborough, Mass." As there was a tie vote, the deciding vote for incorporation was cast by the moderator, Mr. Henry P. Comstock. Since that time pastors have been Rev. Lewis J. Spooner who resigned in 1913; Rev. Asa Stanley Goodrich, 1915; Rev. M. J. B. Fuller, 1919; Rev. Ralph B. Edwards, 1919-1934; Rev. Clarence Carr, 1935-1943. Here are appended a list of the names of some of the early deacons of the New Marlborough Church:

Nathaniel Harmon, elected December, 1749, removed to Bennington, Vt.; Seth Strong, elected June, 1756, removed to Egremont; Jesse Taylor, elected about 1761, died November, 1782; Caleb white, elected May, 1772, died January, 1815; Ephraim Guiteau, elected May, 1772, removed to Norfolk, Conn.; Samuel Sheldon, elected 1780; Artemus Brigham, elected 1797; Ezra Knapp, elected 1799; Abner Hitchcock, elected 1806; Seth Sheldon, elected 1808; Zenas Wheeler, elected 1812; David Walker, elected 1817; Nathan Chapin, elected 1826; Moses Shepard, elected 1827.

The first meeting-house was erected in 1743, nearly on the ground where the present "North Meeting-house" stands. The expense of building was defrayed by the Proprietors of the township. The second meeting-house, which is the present New Marlborough village church building, was built in 1793. (If anyone reading this report can provide information as to the



NEW MARLBOROUGH CHURCH ALTAR  
*"One Pillar for each Apostle"*



architect and builder, the present writer will be very grateful.)

When it came to the choice of a location for the second meeting-house, a great deal of dissension arose. The town had grown since the establishment of the first building, and for many it was a long trip to church. The Howes lived near "East Indies" pond. The Smiths and the Keyes lived on the Connecticut line. These and other families wanted the church to be located in the center of the township. A vote on the subject resulted in the decision to build the second meeting-house on its original location. Disgruntled members living in the southerly part of the town immediately asked to be allowed to form a second society of their own. The Southfield parish was organized April 25, 1794. By action of the General Court the town was divided by a geographical line, running East and West, into two parishes as nearly equal as possible in territorial extent. According to an early writer, "the first parish meeting was held April 28, 1794, in the new meeting-house, which, in their zeal they had completed and commenced to occupy before the meeting-house in the North Parish, whose location had so displeased them, was finished." The church was organized by a council, April 25, 1794, with 21 members.

Of the formation of this South Parish church, Mary S. (Hawley) Rhoades wrote: "The Colony (town of New Marlborough) grew until the first meeting-house was not large enough. All legal voters, by whatsoever name or creed, were taxed for the support of the established church. With rare exception all were church-going people, so that it meant a hardship for those in the south part of the town to go, sometimes four to six miles, to church." The quotation continues: "When, in 1793, it was decided to rebuild at New Marlborough Center, the people of the south part of the town started a subscription paper for a meeting-house of their own. A force of strong, stalwart men surprised the people of the north section by passing through their village with twenty ox-teams on their way to Dry Hill to quarry stone for the foundation of another house of worship."

Although some early records were lost, yet the First Church had this record: "April 20, 1794, Sabbath. The church was called to attend a petition from John Gillette, Bazaleel Rice and wife, Nathan Smith and wife, Amost Smith and wife, Ebenezer Smith, Joseph Fitch and wife, Reuben Bryan and wife, Nathan Butler

and wife, Elizabeth Harmon, Esther Ward, Miriam Beeman, Reuben Clark and wife, Gideon Canfield and wife, Phineas Norton and wife, Elsee Butler, Lorein Ward; said petition being that the church would recommend them to be formed into a distinct church in the South Parish and that on condition of their forming on the Gospel plan, they might be dismissed from their particular relations to this church. Voted: to grant their petition. Attest, Jacob Catlin."

Mrs. Rhoades' account proceeds: "Until recent years every Congregational church had its Ecclesiastical Society which held the property and transacted all business. The warrant for the first meeting of South Parish was dated April 18, 1794, and below is the first clause of the warrant:

'Whereas, the General Court of the Commonwealth, at their sessions in the month of February, last, did pass an act that the Southerly part of the town of New Marlboro should be set off as a separate parish, to be called South Parish in the Town of New Marlborough, and in said act authorizing me, the subscriber, to issue a warrant to call a parish meeting to choose parish officers and transact, in said meeting, any business which shall be found necessary, according to law, Therefore to Major Jedidiah Ward, Greeting.'

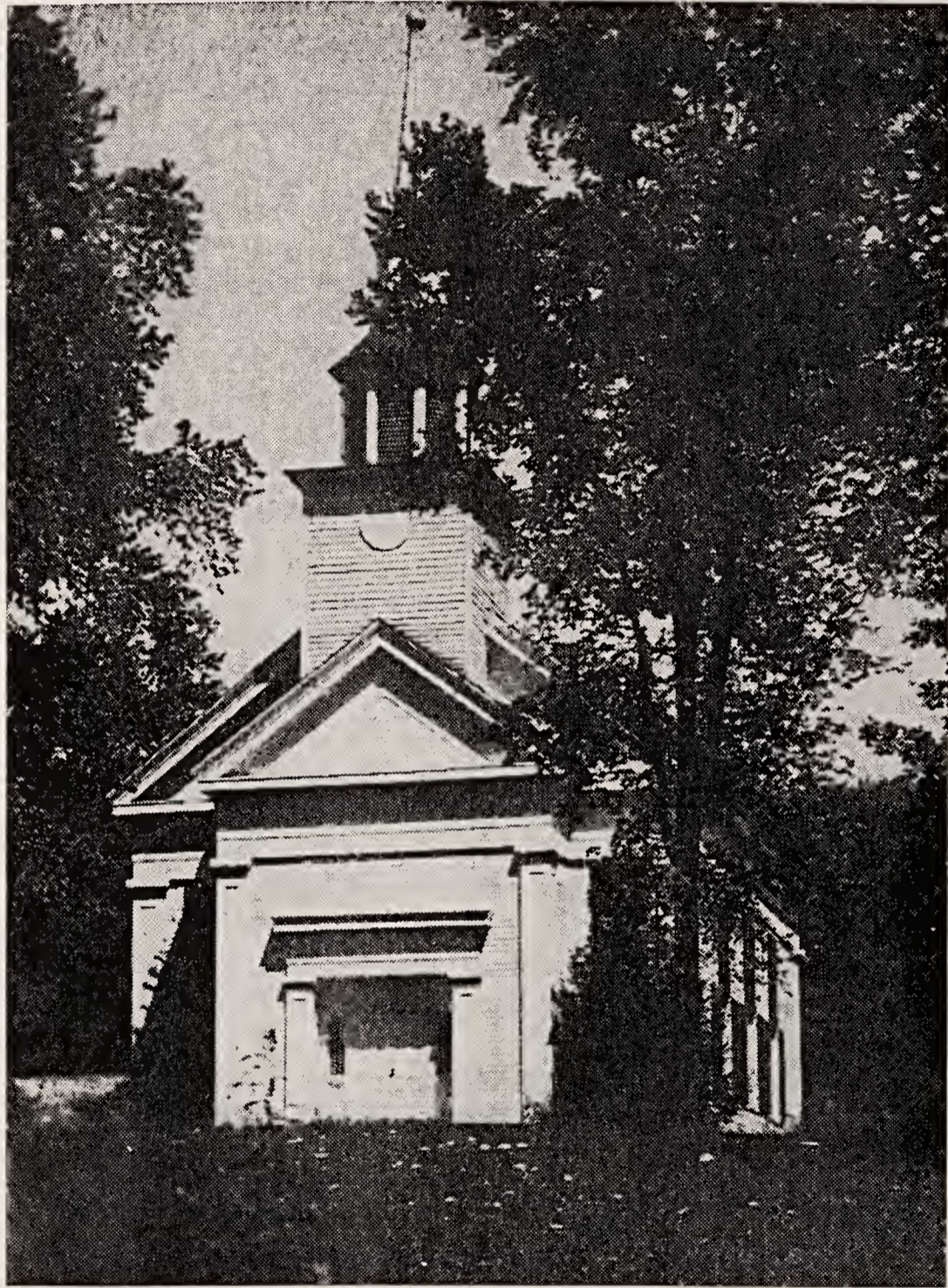
"At the first meeting, Phineas Norton, Dr. Benjamin Smith and Elihu Ward were appointed a committee for taking subscriptions for a permanent fund for the support of orthodox ministers. There are the names on record of 82 persons who gave notes to the Society for this purpose to the amount of 800 pounds, an average of nearly ten pounds each, or roughly, fifty dollars per person," writes Mrs. Rhoades.

Another vote was "that Ralph Ward be the person to keep the key, sweep the meeting-house and dig the graves in the burying-ground near Mr. Lovett Taft's place. Walter Deane was elected Clerk."

Twenty-one members of the North Church made up this first organization. With the coming of Mr. Stevens, first minister, eight more persons from the North Church joined the South Church.

The Reverend John Stevens was a native of Danbury, Conn., and a graduate of Yale College, 1779. He was installed October





THE SOUTHFIELD CHURCH

22, 1794. He had previously settled in Chatham, N. Y. He died January 6, 1799, aged forty-eight. During his last illness he wrote an address to his people and delivered it to the Rev. Dr. Catlin, pastor of the North Church, to be read at his funeral. It is said that the effect of this reading was deep and solemn. He received eight persons into the church during his ministry. In the interval between his death and the ordination of his successor nineteen persons were received to the communion.

On July 10th, the same year, Rev. Nathaniel Turner was called as pastor. The Society voted to give him seventy pounds a year. He continued in the pastor relation until he died, May 25, 1812. During his pastorate a strong effort was made to divide the town, but proved unsuccessful. The Rev. Harley Goodwin of the North Church wrote of Mr. Turner that "he was cheerful, sociable, prompt, active, uncommonly easy of utterance and prepared, as by intuition, for all occasions. Few of his sermons were written but many are graven on the memories, and some of them on the hearts, of those who heard them." He admitted 52 to the church.

Nathaniel Turner had two brothers, Bates and Isaac. Bates Turner started the first law school in Vermont. Once when the Rev. Nathaniel Turner was visiting his brother in Vermont they started crossing Lake Champlain in a small boat. Suddenly a storm came up. Bates Turner noticed that his brother seemed frightened. To calm him he said, "You have nothing to be worried about. If we capsize you will surely go to Heaven." "Yes, I know," replied the Rev. Nathaniel, "but I don't want to go by water."

Mr. Turner's house, built probably in 1799, is owned by his great, great grand-nephew and is the second house north of the Turner & Cook factory in Southfield. The old iron knocker and great hinges and latch on the front door are very interesting. Most of the H and L hinges still remain on the doors. In places some of the original chair-rails are still in place.

Because his salary was meagre, Mr. Turner taught school. Three different authorities apply the adjective "ready" to him. Mr. Turner was twice sent to Vermont by the Berkshire and Columbia Missionary Society as a Home Missionary.

At its annual meeting, the General Association of Massachu-

setts, convened at Bradford, June 29, 1810, organized the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and appointed the Rev. Nathaniel Turner to preach the sermon at this meeting.

It was at New Marlborough that Paul Revere organized the Cincinnatus Lodge of the Order of Masons. [See footnote 11.] The Rev. Mr. Turner had the honor of delivering their anniversary discourse on St. John's Day.

The Rev. Nathaniel Turner was a graduate of Williams College, class of 1798. Since the college was founded, or at least started classes, in 1791, it seems reasonable to believe that Mr. Turner may have been its first representative as a preacher and pastor in Southern Berkshire.

After the death of Mr. Turner, the Rev. Sylvester Burt was settled on a salary of four hundred and fifty dollars. You will notice the change from pounds to dollars. Nothing occurred to disturb the harmony between pastor and people, until Mr. Burt, feeling he could be more useful in another field, asked for a dismissal, which was granted December 31, 1822. He had been pastor nine years and eight months.

The pulpit was supplied till the settlement of Rev. Alvin Somers, who was installed January 11, 1825. He was pastor three years, dismissed May 26, 1828. After an interval of one and a half years, Rev. Erastus Clapp was settled, October 15, 1829, and continued for four and a half years.

On March 13, 1829, it was "voted, that there may be annexed a steeple and bell to the meeting-house if done by subscription." The following year the steeple and bell were added. Mr. James Cook, grandfather of Palmer J. Cook, stated that the steeple was built on the ground and raised up through the box-like structure which supports it.

Rev. Thomas Fletcher next occupied the pulpit, hired by the year at four hundred dollars. He was discharged in March, 1836. The church was without a pastor until March, 1838, when the Rev. Samuel Utley was installed. For nine years he ministered to the people. He was dismissed January 8, 1847. The Rev. Mr. Lombard took his place June 14, 1849. Mr. Lombard lived in the house now owned by Miss Katherine Sheeran. He gave much time to revising the records and printed the list of members.

During the interval between the settlement of Mr. Lombard and the dismissal of Mr. Utley the meeting-house was thoroughly repaired. The "high pulpit," the suspended sounding-board and the side galleries were removed, the ancient high-backed pews were exchanged for slips, and the old, antiquated, box-stove, which had stood for nineteen years raised in the air above the pews, was thrown aside. At the same time that the side galleries were taken down, the rear gallery, where the choir sat, was sealed off from the main part of the church. (And wouldn't we like to have those things back as they were!)

Mr. Lombard, after eleven years of faithful work, was dismissed March 30, 1860. The following year Rev. Irem W. Smith was settled on a salary of five hundred dollars a year, and the use of a parsonage. The records, March 6th, 1861, show the following: "Voted, to choose a committee of three to circulate a subscription paper to raise funds to build a parsonage, and also to furnish a place for the pastor while one is being built."

Mr. Smith remained till the spring of 1866. During his pastorate occurred the War of the Rebellion. Many young men of this parish enlisted in the service of the government. Writes Mr. Ellis: "Some lost their lives in the service, willingly sacrificed in defense of their country. Some returned and we hailed their return with joy, but disease, contracted in their army life, had fastened upon them and in a few weeks they passed away. Some lived to see the triumphant issue of the war, the re-establishment of the Union, the abolition of slavery and peace and good-will prevail, and are here present today." [See footnote 6.]

Rev. Thomas Crowther was hired for one year at a salary of seven hundred dollars and the use of the parsonage. This was later raised to eight hundred dollars a year. He was also granted "four Sabbaths a year for relaxation and other purposes." (Looking back to the "three sessions a day; morning, afternoon and evening," of a hundred years previous, these new innovations seem quite startling.) In 1869 his salary was increased to one thousand dollars. The next year we find in the record that the society voted "that the Second Congregational Society in New Marlborough do vote to accept the meeting-house now building in Mill River, as their place of worship, when completed and furnished to us free from all incumbrances." This vote was subse-

quently reconsidered. For his part in bringing about the above vote, Mr. Crowther was dismissed. He and the western part of the town formed a new society in Mill River. [See footnote 9.]

After Mr. Crowther left, the Rev. Samuel F. Free was pastor from February 4, 1873, to May 13, 1879.

In the early days of the church, during a very serious drought, services were held to pray for rain. A great crowd gathered in the church, jamming not only the nave but the side galleries and rear gallery as well. In the middle of the service thunder was heard, and soon the heavens poured out the stored-up deluge. But only one man went home in triumph and justified faith. Deacon Nathan Butler, who lived just east of "Sunset Rock," of all that throng, was the only person who had brought an umbrella!

Mr. L. B. Scott, a young Methodist minister of Hartsville, supplied the pulpit for two years. The Southfield Congregational "Young People's Meeting" was organized by Mrs. L. B. Scott during the pastorate of her husband (1883-1885) and later became the Y. P. S. C. E. This "Christian Endeavor" group continued unbroken through the years until 1907. Since that time a lack of young people in the community has made this group somewhat sporadic. Then Mr. Frank Nule, a Congregationalist, preached for another two years. These were followed by Rev. William Woodwell for one year, and the Rev. Mr. Sleep of Hartsville, Methodist, who, after five years of faithful service, exactly rounded out the first hundred years of the church.

Fifty years ago, Deacon William Ellis wrote a church history for the hundredth anniversary of the Southfield Church. At that time he drew a picture of the village of Southfield as it had been fifty years previous, *i. e.*, in 1844, one hundred years ago. Wrote Deacon Ellis: "Some of us can remember South Parish as it was in 1844. Rev. Samuel Utley is pastor; Augustus Turner, attorney; Steven Sage, merchant; Doctor Tremaine, who, when the roads were badly drifted, shouldered his saddle-bags, put on his snow-shoes, and took a bee-line to visit his patients in the remote parts of the town. Commencing at the north end of the village, we find John Norton, clothier, sawyer and manufacturer of satinette; Deacon Gideon Canfield, brick-maker; Daniel Shepard and

son, Frank, wagon makers; Reuben Pettis, hatter; Miner Loring, blacksmith; Joseph Foskit, cooper; Henry Whitman, shoemaker; Star Brush, tailor; Captain Adam Kasson, wheelwright; Phineas Pettis, carpenter; and a soap and candle manufactory where the parsonage now stands. When this church was erected, and for thirty years afterwards, there was no chimney, no steeple, no bell, nor any adornments whatever. Cushions and carpets were unknown in country churches. All the material used for light and illuminating purposes was the tallow candle.

"The pastors then preached two sermons on the Sabbath and usually held a third service in some part of the parish in the evening, besides preparatory lecture once in two months. I do not learn that they had a vacation or any time for relaxation from their arduous duties. There were no organized Missionary Societies, Bible Societies, Tract Societies, Temperance Societies, or Sabbath Schools. In fact, no organized benevolent societies for humane or charitable purposes. I do not know of any restrictions on the sale or use of alcoholic liquor. It was considered indispensable in nearly every family and was freely used in haying and harvesting, and the man was highly censured who refused to furnish spirits at raisings, weddings, bees, and so forth. Distilling and trafficking were not inconsistent with a good Christian character.

"In every household were found the family *Bible*, Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, Baxter's *Saint's Rest*, Dodridge's *Works*, Watt's *Divine Hymns*, but the greatest educator, one that had the greatest influence in moulding the thoughts and opinions in that day, was the *New England Primer and Catechism* combined. It was the spelling book, reading book and catechism together, and every Christian mother felt in duty bound to instruct her children in the catechism and their duties to themselves, to their parents, to those about them and to God, and even in the district school every other Saturday afternoon, the catechism must be recited and the Lord's Prayer and Ten Commandments committed to memory."

Thank you, Deacon Ellis, for that picture of the past.

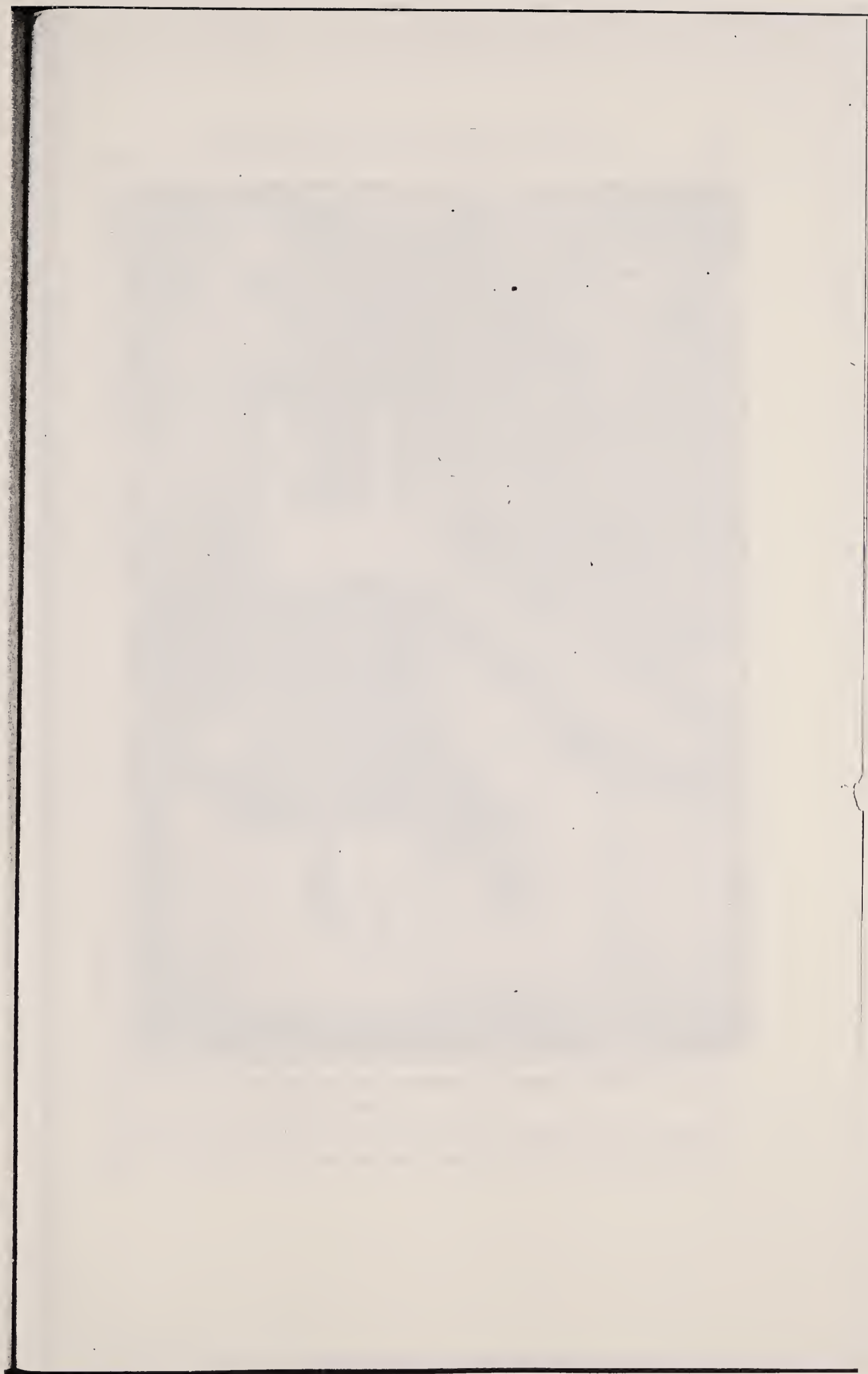
The next minister, after Mr. Sleep, was the Rev. Aaron W. Field of New Marlborough. Just a hundred years from the time of their separation saw the North and South churches united

under one pastor, but still using their two "meeting houses," source of the original separation.

Then, in 1897, it was arranged that there should be two associate pastors for the three Congregational churches in the town. John B. Lewis and Albert H. Plumb were the first two associate ministers, Mr. Lewis living in Mill River and Mr. Plumb at Southfield. Mr. Plumb was succeeded by Edwin C. Gillette, who remained for four years. Mr. Gillette later became State Secretary of the Florida Congregational Conference.

These men were followed by Willard E. Streeter, Arthur Clements, Garret V. Stryker, George N. Karner, E. J. Hanford, Puzant S. Levonian, Ivan Benedict, Monte Fuller, Dudley Snowman, Ralph B. Edwards, Clarence Carr, and the present pastor, Arthur Simmons.

Mr. Dudley Snowman started the first Vacation Bible School held by the Southfield Congregational Church, with Mrs. H. K. Turner as his assistant. Without other help, they carried out a simple program. This school grew under the Rev. Ralph I. Edwards and Mrs. Edwards. Under Rev. Clarence Carr and Mrs. Carr the school grew still further, so that it was necessary to hold the sessions in the Central School building in Mill River. During several years, trained workers from the Hartford Theological Seminary helped with this program. During Mr. Carr's pastorate a separate church service was held for the children in the Ladies' Aid Society building at the same hour as the regular church service. The children's services were in charge of Mrs. W. T. Dunham, with help from Mrs. Elmer Bohman and others. Many people helped as teachers in the Sunday School from time to time but Mrs. Robert Rhoades took the greatest responsibility during most of these years. Under Mr. Carr the post of "Parish Visitor" was filled by Mrs. W. T. Dunham. Both Mrs. Dunham and Mr. Carr held many cottage prayer-meetings and worship services in the parts of the town somewhat removed from the church buildings. Buses were employed to bring the children to Sunday School, Junior Church and to Vacation School. Mr. Carr also preached at South Sandisfield, usually before his service in New Marlborough, and turned all the money which he received for that work over towards paying the salary of our "Parish Visitor." Mr. Carr's contributions towards this work averaged about \$300





THE HARTSVILLE METHODIST CHURCH

a year. Needless to say, after such a record, his parishioners felt very sad when Mr. Carr announced he wished to retire from serving our churches. We miss Mr. and Mrs. Carr and the church paper with the news of the parish. Mrs. Carr was an able helper in the work of the parish. Having studied music at Syracuse University, and with a background of several years in Y. W. C. A. work in China, she was ready for almost every situation. She taught classes in Sunday School and Vacation School, sang in the choir, played the organ in church when the regular organist was absent, and helped in many other ways. Gould Farm is very fortunate in acquiring these talented and purposeful people.

Under present practice all Congregationalists in the town worship together in the old North Parish Church for the summer months, in a way symbolizing the fact that the three churches are still one, despite the needs which brought about the separate meeting-houses.

Early deacons of Southfield were:

Nathan Butler, moved to Paris, N. Y.; Joseph Fitch, moved to Geneva, Ohio; Ebenezer Smith, Esq., died September 8, 1816; Benjamin Smith; Isaac Turner (His great, great grandson is a present deacon); Gideon Canfield.

In the Spring of 1850 the name "Southfield" was given, by the Postmaster General, to the postoffice in South New Marlborough.

The Hartsville Methodist Church Society was formed in the extreme north-western part of the town, in the village of Hartsville, in 1844, just one hundred years ago. Services were first held above the postoffice and store. In 1849 a meeting-house was built, and dedicated November 14th of that year. We are told that the meeting-house was built by Henry Baldwin, who also built and ran the local machine shop and iron foundry and produced heavy machinery. The iron ore was brought from what is now Monterey. The writer has also been informed that some ore came from Salisbury. Mr. Baldwin was a very energetic man and under his moving spirit and watchful eye the building was soon completed and dedicated.

The first minister of the new church was affectionately called "Father" Merwin. When the bell was put up it was pulled into

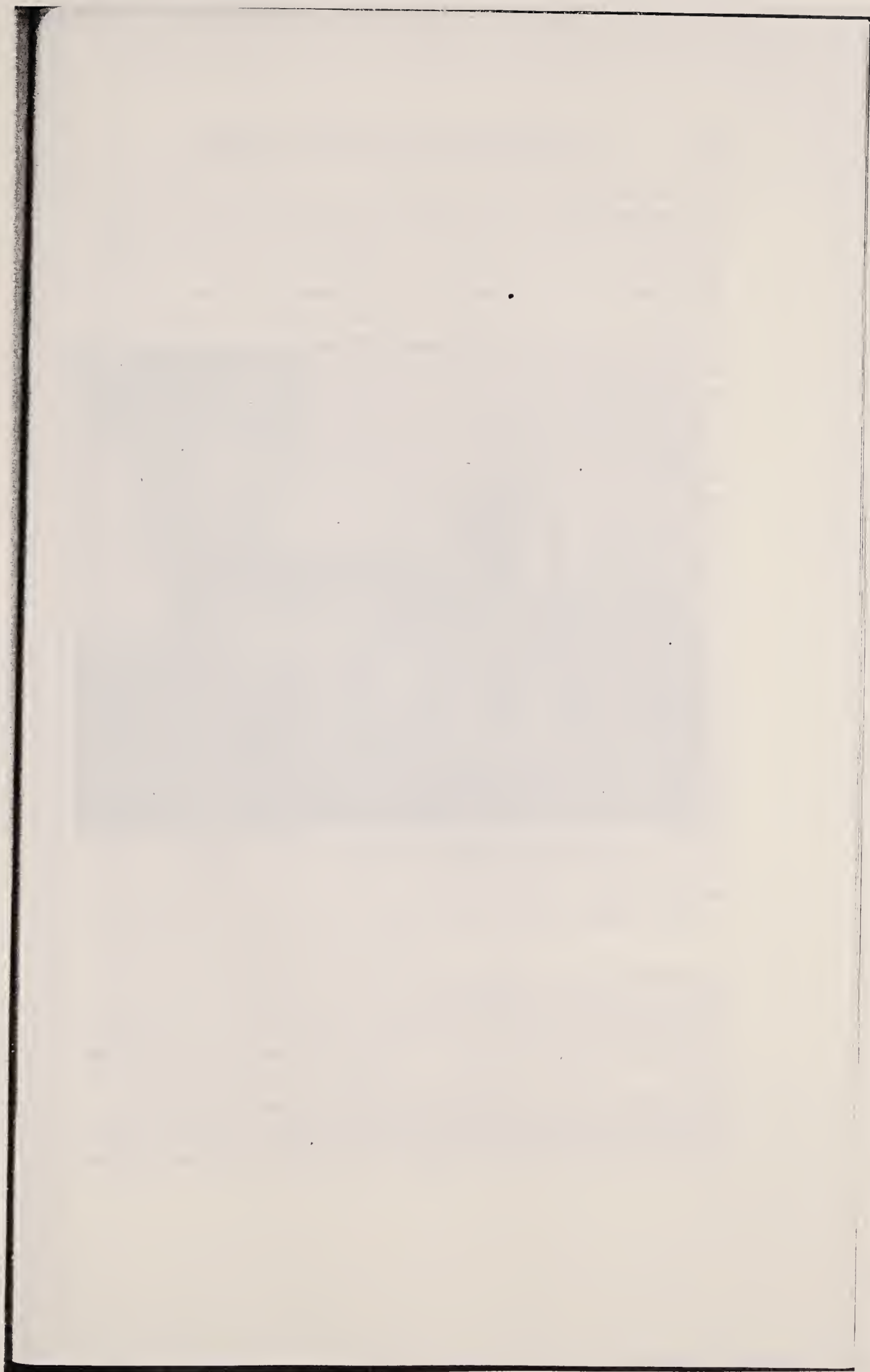
place with tackle-blocks and a very long rope. Our "authority" states that the rope reached to the river and that men and boys strove for places on it to the very end. This bell was made in England and was greatly admired.

Among the pastors of the Hartsville church have been the following: William Winchell, Robert Houghtaling, Melville S. Pressey, Edward G. Wahl, H. H. Clements, George Stac(r)k, William Sleep, ——— Wixon, Vealey, Thomas Martin, ——— Ackerman, George Smith, A. B. Eaton, Clifford M. Wittstruck, ——— Mac Cumber, L. B. Scott, Purdy Halstedt, Jr.

William H. Baldwin took much interest in the church. He came to Hartsville in 1846 and for twenty-one years was connected with the foundry and forge there, leaving for New Haven in 1867. Castings as heavy as 3000 pounds were turned out. The firm was then Lincoln & Hobbs, and Mr. Baldwin entered as a partner.

In 1846 a Baptist church was organized in Southfield with twenty-four members and a meeting-house erected which was dedicated in February, 1847. In May of that year the Rev. Amos N. Benedict became the pastor. He continued in that capacity until April, 1850. On June 18, 1847, Levi Barber was chosen moderator of the first formal meeting. The Rev. Amos Benedict was chosen clerk. Deacon Lovel Hartwell led in prayer. Deacon Lovel Hartwell and Abiel Webster were appointed a committee to prepare Articles of Faith and Covenant. A Resolve was passed "that we will embrace the first opportunity to request Letters of Dismission from the several churches to which we now belong." At the next meeting it was voted that Lovel Hartwell and Abiel Webster serve the church as deacons, and that William R. Baldwin serve as church clerk. It was voted to plan for the ordination of Mr. Amos Benedict. To that end delegates were invited from churches at Sandisfield, Egremont, Hop Brook, Colebrook and Norfolk.

An ecclesiastical council convened July 14, 1847, which publicly recognized the church and ordained Amos N. Benedict. In May, 1850, the Rev. William Bogart succeeded Mr. Benedict. In May, 1852, Rev. Henry Barlow took the place of Mr. Bogart. Then followed, in 1856, Henry M. Jones, a Licentiate; in 1858,





THE MILL RIVER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Rev. William Goodwin; in 1866, Rev. W. W. Whitten; in the same year, Rev. J. Fairman; in April, Rev. Dwight Spencer; in 1869, Rev. Charles H. Hickok; in 1871, Rev. M. R. Favor; in 1875, C. E. Van Allen, Licentiate. In 1879 the Rev. Amos Benedict again took the pastorate of the church and continued until 1896, when he resigned because of his age. The Rev. J. H. Bigger took his place. In 1897 came Alfred S. Hill; in 1898, Rev. Harry S. Mabie. At about this time the parsonage burned and Mr. Mabie, who was formerly an architect, drew plans for the present parsonage. In 1902 Mr. Mabie left, and was followed by Mrs. Mary Hadley for a few months.

The Rev. Harry E. Hinkley accepted a call in 1902. In 1912 Rev. W. R. Terry came to the pastorate. He resigned in 1920 after serving one of the longest and most successful terms. He was followed by Ivan Benedict, grandson of the first pastor. In 1921 the Baptist church united with the Southfield Congregational church with the Rev. Ivan Benedict as pastor.

In 1870 a third Congregational Church and Society was established, at Mill River, by about fifty persons, about equally divided in numbers from the North and South churches. The Rev. Thomas Crowther formerly pastor at the Southfield church, became their first pastor. For five years this church shared with the north parish the services of Professor S. T. Frost, a licentiate of South Berkshire Congregational Conference. In Mr. Sisson's history it is stated that "on the second day of February, 1871, Edwin I. Adams, J. N. Adams, J. P. Wadsworth and forty-five others, were formed into a church and that much credit is due to Captain John Carroll for the great energy and pecuniary aid bestowed by him upon the enterprise."

A condition of Mr. John Carroll's gift to the Mill River Congregational Church was that the building be built on the hill opposite his own very fine residence, so that he could see the meeting-house from his window. Following generations have been thankful for his foresight.

The first deacons were Jarvis N. Collar, Edwin I. Adams and John S. Wolfe. In spite of the fact that between his initial offer and the building of the church, Captain Carroll's mill burned to

the ground, uninsured, he still insisted on contributing to within a few dollars of the amount he originally promised.

Succeeding pastors have been Rev. Henry C. Granger, Rev. John Marsland, Rev. S. R. Butler, Rev. Albert I. Chittenden, Rev. John B. Lewis, Rev. Garret V. Stryker, Rev. George N. Karner, Rev. E. J. Hanford, Rev. P. S. Levonian, Rev. Monte Fuller, Rev. R. B. Edwards, Rev. Clarence Carr and Rev. Arthur Simmons

Miss Katherine Doyle, of the famous family of that name in New Marlborough, had the following to write about the Catholic Church:

"The first mass in the village was celebrated in 1848, in the home of Stephen Wrinkle, whose father, Timothy Wrinkle, was the first native of Ireland to make settlement in the town. By 1865 the matter of building a church took shape. Father Meni-etti started the ball rolling with a contribution of a hundred dollars, upon which Michael Brennan, Michael Curtin, Michael Doyle and Dominick Garrahan each contributed a similar amount, and the building fund was on its way. William Huntley presented land for the site and the church became the first to be built in the village of Mill River.

"Priests have been, among others, Rev. Meni-etti, Rev. Charles Grace, Rev. P. Eagan, Rev. James Hennessey, Rev. John H. Murphy, Rev. David Moyes, Rev. Martin Murphy, Rev. Thomas Fitzgerald, Rev. James A. Hurley, Rev. Owen McGee, Rev. Philip Lee, Rev. T. B. Cunningham, Rev. Joseph McKeown, Rev. Patrick A. Manion, Rev. William Lucey, Rev. Patrick Carey, Rev. Patrick Coyle, Rev. R. P. Lawless, Rev. Richard J. Dee."

In the southern part of New Marlborough, near the beautiful and famous "Campbells' Falls," is a section of the town bordering on the Connecticut line which has been known as "Huxley" district. This section was named for Captain Huxley, a leading citizen in "the old days." A large tract of land, several hundred acres, still retains the old name given it by the first settlers, "East Indies." In this neighborhood lived Ebenezer Fitch. His brother, Gershom Fitch, lived a little to the west of Campbell Falls. The latter's son, Robert, became an editor of *The Boston*

*Transcript.* The important Gaylord family lived in this district. Grove Gaylord was a Democratic leader and a Representative at the Massachusetts General Court, as was also John P. Wadsworth, who also lived in this section. Origen Gibson ran a large saw-mill. Here William Gibson lived to the grand old age of one hundred years and seven months.

At the junction of the Southfield-Norfolk road with the Campbell Falls road, in the Huxley district, is a neat little church. This succeeds what, a generation ago, was a Baptist church. All denominations, including Quakers, united. There were numerous Quakers in this part of the town, and over the Connecticut line they had a Quaker church. The old burying-ground is still continued in use.

The Clayton Union Church Society was formed March 28, 1891. The warrant calling the meeting was issued by Henry R. Bunnell, Justice of the Peace, on the petition of Lyman A. Smith, William J. Ferguson, H. R. Bunnell, Mrs. George W. Curtis, Mrs. Sarah M. Rood, Mrs. Sarah J. Smith, Jacob Decker, Mrs. Jennie E. Decker, E. W. Rood, Willie L. Barnes, George W. Curtis, Mrs. Willie Barnes, Mrs. Albert Barnes, Mrs. George McIntyre, Mrs. W. Sardam, Albert E. Barnes and William Sardam.

Meeting at the house of William Barnes, the meeting was called to order by B. N. Clark of Sheffield. By ballot, Albert E. Barnes was chosen clerk and Henry Bunnell was chosen moderator. Other officers elected were Elisha M. Rood, treasurer; Henry Bunnell, George McIntyre and William Ferguson, trustees. William Sardam, Willie Barnes, Elisha Rood, Jacob Decker, Lyman Smith, William Ferguson, Mrs. H. Bunnell and Mrs. George McIntyre were elected to the committee on by-laws. Henry Bunnell, Elisha Rood and George McIntyre were elected to form the building committee.

It appears from the treasurer's book that the first preaching service was on December 24, 1891, and that a Mr. Utterwick was the preacher. The second preacher seems to have been Mr. Hiram Eddy, on January 3, 1892. Mr. Stone preached on January 17, and Mr. Amos Benedict on March 3.

The Berkshire China Clay Corporation, through its president, James H. Lyles, gave and deeded land on which to build a chapel. This was on July 23rd, 1891.

Among interesting by-laws adopted by the society are the following:

Article 9. The Standing Committee shall have supervision of funds and property and shall open the chapel (that is soon to be erected) to be used for religious services when so requested to do by any Protestant Christians hereinafter designated as belonging to said Union, to hold meetings and for any and all purposes that they may deem to be for the interest of said Society.

Article 13. The Clayton Union Church Society shall embrace the following denominations, *viz.*: Congregationalists, Episcopalians, Methodists and Baptists. To these have lately been added the Seventh Day Adventists.

#### EARLY PHYSICIANS

Elihu Wright, Ebenezer Parrish, Ephraim Guiteau (removed to Norfolk, Conn.), David Church (removed to New Orleans, La.), Benjamin Smith, Elijah Catlin (died 1823), Reuben Buckman, Gilbert Smith (died 1804), Ira Smith (removed to Auburn, N. Y.), Edward C. Peet (died 1828), Remus M. Fowler (removed to Washington, Conn.), John Scoville, Aretas Rising.

#### EARLY MAGISTRATES

Jabez Ward (died 1787) Jabez Ward (died 1786), Obadiah Ward (moved away), Daniel Taylor (died July 6, 1814), Ebenezer Smith (died Sept. 8, 1816), Benjamin Wheeler, Joseph Fitch, Jason Warren, Edward Stevens, Isaac Turner, Benjamin Sheldon, Warren Wheeler, Levi Smith.

#### THE CATLIN HOUSE

There are several houses in New Marlborough which deserve mention as exhibiting the architecture of pre-Revolutionary America, but the house of Dr. Catlin, now owned by Mr. Ticknor, is, to the writer's mind, the most noteworthy. Records indicate that the house was built in 1745. Undoubtedly the ell part was built then, for it contains the old sink, hewn out of solid rock, and the old well with its well-top a mighty slab of solid stone, measuring five feet by seven, with a hole drilled out in its center just the diameter of the well. Lafayette slept in the old

---

bedstead in an upstairs bedroom, and family tradition has it that Cincinnatus Lodge of Masons, whose charter bears the name of Paul Revere, then Grand Master, organized in this house. The old writing-table of Dr. Catlin is still in its usual place, and the sermons of Dr. Catlin are intact in one of its drawers. For a picture of the best of New Marlborough as it was two hundred years ago, one should see this house. Even the furniture has been preserved. There is even a portrait in oil of Dr. Catlin himself.

## *New Marlborough in the Country's Wars*

### THE REVOLUTIONARY RECORD

THE Revolutionary records of the town are exceedingly interesting. A warrant, calling for a town meeting, dated June 17, 1774, contained articles relating to the correspondence received from Boston and the choice of a town "Committee of Correspondence." The meeting was held June 23rd, and Noah Church, Dr. Ephraim Guiteau, Jabez Ward, Zenas Wheeler and Dr. Elihu Wright were chosen a committee to attend a convention of the "Town Committees" at Stockbridge.

On the second Monday in July the people met again and heard the report of their committee. A long list of resolutions was reported, acknowledging their allegiance to George the Third, asserting that the people of the colonies were entitled to all the rights enjoyed by any citizen of Great Britain (rights conveyed in the Province charter), condemning the tea tax and all of its incidental usurpations, and favoring the adoption of a non-consumption covenant. (It should be remembered that in 1770 had occurred the "Boston Massacre," so-called, in which British soldiers had fired on Americans and killed three. It should also be remembered that on December 16, 1773, six months previous to the formation of the above committees of the town, the shipload of British tea had been thrown overboard into Boston harbor.)

Soon after meeting to hear the report of their committee, the town began to collect materials for defense. On September 12, 1774, the town voted to procure "for a town stock" 224 pounds of powder, 600 pounds of lead and "nine gross of good flints." Thirty-five pounds in money was voted to meet the expense. January 24, 1775, a "Committee of Inspection" was chosen, consisting of Captain Zenas Wheeler, Jabez Ward, Major John Col- lar, Captain Caleb Wright, Gideon Post, Eleazer Taylor and Cyrus Brookins. (This was a month and a half before the first blood of the American War of Independence was shed at West-

minster, Vt.) The committee were charged "to see that the advice of the Continental Congress be strictly adhered to." Obadiah Ward, Daniel Taylor, Captain Zenas Wheeler and Gideon Post were chosen a committee to collect donations for the poor of the towns of Boston and Charlestown. (The Continental Congress had been in session the previous year, meeting in Philadelphia, and British troops in great numbers were quartered on the Boston people.) At this same meeting Dr. Ephraim Guiteau was elected a delegate to the Provincial Congress.

On March 14, 1775, it was voted "to pay each Minute-man that is equipped within twenty days, one shilling for every half day he shall train, until the 14th of May, next, and not to exceed ten half days in said term." (One wonders if the news of the Westminister, Vt., Massacre of the day before could have possibly reached New Marlborough in twenty-four hours.)

On April 22, 1775, a committee was chosen to look after and take care of the families of those men who might be called to go in defense of the country. (This action was taken three days after the battles of Lexington and Concord and the famous ride of Paul Revere.)

Following the Lexington alarm, Caleb Wright, with a company of minute-men from New Marlborough, marched to Roxbury.

The votes that occur after this consist of offers of bounties for enlistment, of answers to requisitions for supplies of men and means.

On August 16, 1777, the people passed a resolve "they would support the selectmen in impressing horses for men to ride to Bennington in the present alarm." (The previous year Tom Paine had published *Common Sense*, in behalf of the American cause, the Declaration of Independence had been signed. Now General Burgoyne was marching down from Canada with a large army of English, Indians, Canadians and Hessian soldiers. They had captured Fort Ticonderoga and were now marching on southward, part of the army going towards Albany, later to fight the battle of Saratoga and be captured by the Americans, and a second force was headed for the Berkshires by way of Bennington. This latter force of Indians, Canadians and Hessians were

under the command of Baume. Colonel Stark, with a force of eighteen hundred men, many of them minute-men like those of New Marlborough for whom the horses were being impressed so that they might ride to Bennington, attacked Baume "in front and rear." The Indians and the Canadians ran away but the Hessians put up a brave fight. Colonel Baume was killed. The Hessians were taken prisoners and the New Marlborough minute-men rode their "impressed horses" home again and waited for another "alarm." Colonel Stark was made a brigadier general.

Within a few days General Burgoyne and all his army were being marched over "the Great Road" to Boston as prisoners of war. The British officers and men were treated with great kindness on their way to Cambridge. At Great Barrington, Burgoyne, who was "indisposed and depressed in spirits," remained for several days the guest of Colonel Elijah Dwight in the Henderson house. Many of the soldiers were sick, and it is related that Captain Truman Wheeler collected roots, boiled them down, and personally distributed the concoction among the invalids with good effect, and one of the British officers presented Captain Wheeler with a substantial token of his appreciation.

The last town meeting called "in His Majesty's name" was called by a warrant dated May 30, 1775. On August 16, 1777, a warrant commenced: "In the name of the People and State of Massachusetts Bay." (Two months earlier the Continental Congress had adopted the "Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union," so that such a warrant was deemed legal and proper although the thirteen states had not ratified the action of the Continental Congress at the time of the above warrant.)

It is probable that the New Marlborough men enlisted in the two Berkshire regiments, one commanded by Colonel Fellows of Sheffield, and the other by Colonel Paterson of Lenox.

Ebenezer Smith as captain, and John Collar as colonel and paymaster, served through the entire war. Captain Luke Hitchcock was killed in a duel with his own lieutenant at West Point on the Hudson while the American army was stationed there.

Below is the "Muster Role and 'Larmlist of the South Company of New Marlborough," dated October 16, 1779. We take it for granted that since this was designated the "South" company,

that there was another one in the north of the town whose muster roll and alarm list we do not have:

Capt. John Collar	Nodiah Gillet
Liut. Eli Harmon	Asel Gillet
Liut. Aaron Spalding	Thomas Gifford
Clerk Dan Canfield	Jonothan Harmon
Sgt. Reuben Beeman	Eli Harmon, Jr.
Sgt. Nathan Smith	Josiah Harmon
Sgt. Samuel Norton	Asa Harmon, Jr.
Sgt. Isaac Collar	Jehiel Harmon
Corpl. Uriah Spalding	Uriah Harmon
Corpl. William Griswold	Moses Harmon, Jr.
Corpl. Joseph Hewet	John Harmon
Corpl. Zebediah Adams	Asa Huet
Drummer, Rufus Harmon	Dan Huxley
Fifer, Gideon Post, Jr.	John Herrick, Jr.
Jonathan Allen	Daniel Herrick
Amos Allen	William King
Rufus Allen	Abel Kidder
James Brooks	William More
Jabez Brooks	Alexander Knap
Shadrach Brooks	Seth Norton
Ephraim Blackmore	Phineas Norton
Levi Barber	David Norton
Isaac Barber	Benjamin Owin
David Baldwin	Eleazer Peck
Salmon Butler	Phineas Pumrey, Jr.
Daniel Brooks	Simeon Pumrey
Luther Brooks	Solomon Shepherd
Obediah Brown	Nathaniel Sheperd
John Collar, Jr.	Josiah Squire
Solomon Cook	Samuel Smith
Samuel Chaffee	David Smith
Joseph Camfield	Richard Smith
Thomas Camfield	Andrew Stevens
Jochobud Case	John Stanard
Moses Collier	Hezekiah Sage
Seth Case	Lovet Taft
Zebediah Deen	Josiah Whiting
Levi Darling	Thomas Wilcocks

Below is the "Larmlist" (Minute-men.)

Capt. Ephraim Guiteau	Samuel Camfield
Capt. Gideon Post	Samuel Barber
Liut. Reuben Briant	Barzchil Rice
Liut. Richard Briant	Moses Harmon

Liut. Amos Smith	Abraham Sabin
Liut. Simon Adams	Phinehus Pumrey
Obediah Ward	Nathan Butler
Nathan Smith	Daniel Shepherd
John Gillet	Jarid Huxley
John Gillet, Jr.	Ephraim Hewet
John Herrick	Hopstill King
Gideon Canfield	Darius Post
David Harmon	Hezekiah Cook
Jonah King	David Brooks
Robert Taft	Ezekel Wright
Peter Chapin	Asa Harmon
Joseph Blackmore	

The reader will notice that simplified spelling got an early start in New Marlborough.

Captain John Collar, commanding officer of the above "South Company of New Marlborough," received his commission as Captain on October 14, 1777, and his commission as Lieutenant-Colonel on July 1, 1781, signed by Governor John Hancock. (It is interesting to know that New Marlborough had this specimen of John Hancock's famous signature.)

Jabez Ward (fourth generation in America) was born in 1708 in Marlborough. He married Phoebe Eager of Marlborough. They moved to New Marlborough and he became a magistrate. Among his eight children a son, Jabez, married Jemima Allen, a first cousin of Colonel Ethan Allen of Green Mountain fame. Colonel Ethan Allen had an iron works up on Mt. Riga, out of Salisbury, Conn. There was forged the chain which was thrown across the Hudson river to prevent the English gun-boats from sailing up to Albany. (When the writer was town clerk of New Marlborough he received a letter from a person who was writing a biography of Ethan Allen, asking where the land of Ethan Allen in the town of New Marlborough had been situated.) The old Allen Iron Works still stand on Mt. Riga and are worth a trip to see, situated at the end of a beautiful chain of lakes. These lakes are not shown on most maps.

#### THE WAR OF 1812

In the war of 1812, New Marlborough responded promptly to the call of the country. During the summer of 1814 Captain

Joseph S. Catlin, with Luke Harmon for lieutenant, Benjamin Smith, Jr., for ensign (now called second lieutenant), and Jonathan Arnold for fifer, marched the New Marlborough company of militia to Boston. Once again "the Great Road" resounded to the tread of soldiers' feet and the shrill of martial music. The Harmon home was in sight of "the Great Road," and one can imagine with what mixed feelings the family watched Lieutenant Luke Harmon march away to the music of the fife. After about three months' service, the company was returned home. At the point where the company had been stationed the British gunboats outside Boston harbor could be seen.

#### THE CIVIL WAR

The roll of honor on our town book of "Soldiers' Records" for the Civil War bears the names of 202 persons, of whom twenty-one went out "to return no more forever." One hundred and nine enlisted and served in Massachusetts regiments, twenty-four in Connecticut regiments, and nineteen elsewhere. The list follows:

Adams, Adrian M.	Barrow, John	Carroll, Edward
Andros, Darwin C.	Brown, Samuel	Clark, Welles
Adams, Edwin S.	Barker, George	Clark, Henry
Adams, Harvey D.	Bay, Joseph	Cameron, Thomas
Adams, Willis	Cowles, Henry	Cleveland, Stratton
Adams, James H.	Cook, Edward C.	Curtin, Timothy
Ahern, John	Canfield, Marcus	Chapin, Alvin W.
Barber, George	Conklin, Alonzo W.	Carroll, Edward, Jr.
Barber, Hubert L.	Carman, Edward H.	Carman, Benjamin
Britt, Josiah W.	Clark, James	Clark, James
Brooks, John C.	Campbell, Edw. W.	Callaghan, Dennis
Brooks, Jabez C.	Cook, Lewis A.	Carter, Rendon D.
Brace, Henry	Clemens, Henry	Duncan, George
Brannen, Luke	Clark, Henry	Duncan, Wm. J.
Booth, Edwin L.	Cronk, Joseph C.	Duncan, Wm. H.
Britt, Alonzo	Capen, George P.	Dunbar, Wm.
Brocha, Stephen	Cadwell, Almon	Decker, Jacob
Burdock, Joseph	Carriel, Henry M.	Durant, Peter
Barter, Richard	Collins, Thomas	Driscoll, Timothy
Benton, Edward	Clark, Wilbur J.	Dow, George M.
Bailey, Charles	Cary, Thomas	Durant, Edgar
Bourne, Josiah	Chapin, George B.	Drew, John
Brewer, Samuel	Carmon, Benjamin	Dawson, George
Bell, George	Campbell, David	Daily, Thomas E.

Dougherty, Patric	Kanz, Ferdinand	Stanard, Levi M.
Erivirus, Elwyn	Knapp, Adoniram	Stanard, Edward
Fargo, Albert F.	Lacey, Edward	Sackett, Trelarone
Foley, Dennis	Lambert, Frederick	Sisson, Henry D.
Fogerty, William	Logan, Harmon	Smith, Alva
Fitzgerald, Timothy	McCormic, James	Sage, George
Flannery, David	Morin, Michael	Stanard, David H.
Fellowes, George	Maxwell, Wm.	Sheldon, Gilbert L.
Gleason, Edwin	Murray, Horatio	Scriber, Henry C.
Gleason, Buell	Mahoney, James	Stafford, Joseph
Gleason, Milo	Mambert, Peter	Smith, Nicholas
Granger, Salmon	Moreton, David	Sheehan, Timothy
Galoin, Dennis	Moody, Dennis	Sweeney, Charles
Gleason, Edw. B.	Moran, Thomas	Tubbs, John
Gardner, George	Mitchell, John	Taylor, Jonas
Hallahar, James	McCarty, Michael	Turgeon, Charles
Hecox, James	Menot, John F.	Turner, George
Heysick, John	Norton, E. W.	VanDeusen, Henry
Huntley, Joseph W.	Norton, Gaylord S.	Warner, John J.
Hecox, Wm.	Nichols, Charles H.	Warner, George
Howe, Horner W.	Ostrom, Joseph O.	Warner, Henry
Hecox, George W.	O'Connor, Daniel	Warner, Alfred
Hall, John A.	Potter, John E.	Warner, William
Hyde, Henry D.	Palmer, Henry	Willet, George
Harford, Nicholas	Palmer, Geo. W.	Wheelock, William
Hollister, Gilbert	Powell, Stephen	Williams, Chas. H.
Hennesey, Wm.	Parmelee, Homer	Wood, Joseph H.
Hickey, James	Rhoades, Henry D.	Ward, Jabez C.
Hanley, John S.	Rhoades, Christ'ph'r	Warner, Henry E.
Hutchinson, Mel. S.	Rising, E. J.	Webster, Seth R.
Harvey, Samuel	Reid, Edwin R.	Wheeler, George
Heavers, Thomas	Rockford, Thomas	Warner, William
Hanson, Robert M.	Robinson, Charles	Watkins, Samuel
Jackson, Wm. H.	Rees, Benjamin	Whitemore, Thos.
Jordan, Michael	Reed, Thomas	Walsh, John
Knapp, Nelson E.	Richardson, Charles	Wilcox, Chas. H.
Knapp, Isaac M.	Reading, George G.	Williams, Benjamin
Keyes, Marshall	Stannard, Wm. M.	Wilcox, H. L.
Keyes, Henry	Smith, Benj. W. F.	Windell, John
Keyes, Lorin P.	Sage, Elisha P.	Woodworth, Erastus
Kelly, James C.	Smith, Edward H.	Waters, John T.
Kelly, John	Shores, John W.	Dana, Wright
Kelly, Wm.	Stanard, Valentine	Welch, William
	Stanard, Arlington	

Mrs. Fannie Richardson, great grand-daughter of Samuel Catlin (who was postmaster for forty years in the early days of

the town) bears the distinction of being the one who first put flags on the graves of soldiers of the Civil War. "This was at Knoxville, Tennessee, the beautiful custom spreading from that beginning, all over the country."

#### THE TOWN IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR

True to her traditions of the past, New Marlborough assumed her responsibilities in World War I, and from her population of about nine hundred people, a good percentage responded for the service. After the close of the war, a memorial monument was erected upon the lawn of the library in Mill River village, carrying a bronze tablet, upon which are cast the following names:

*John J. O'Brien	Ronald B. Kair
Herbert L. Call	Frank Emprimo
Floyd W. Canfield	William J. Murray
John H. Humes	William McVey
Albert F. Hoag	Waldo H. Whitney
William E. Kair	John W. Ullman
Savric Lebate	James W. Carroll
David J. McAuliffe	Dudley S. Turner
Claude Sleep	Antonia Bianchi
Paul C. Stalker	Wallace W. Hall
Hadley K. Turner	*Donald Beers
*Robert C. Sellew	

The name of William Cunningham, who made a splendid record in the service, was inadvertently omitted from the plate on the monument through some unaccountable error in making the bronze tablet.

#### NEW MARLBOROUGH IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR

The following is an official list of names of men in the armed services of the United States, World War II, to whom the combined churches have sent pocket-size New Testaments, with an attempt to list their rating. Undoubtedly there will be many mistakes, as, in many cases, we are obliged to rely on statements of service men's friends:

Alexander, Pfc. Francis	Bailey, Frank E.
Amsted, Vernon	Bailey, Cpl. Frank H.

Bailey, Cpl. Sheriden	Johnston, Andrew
Bailey, Ross E., Jr.	Knight, C. Raymond (dis.)
Beers, Sgt. Henry A.	Losaw, Pfc. David
Brazie, Pfc. Maurice	Hastedt, Fred, Jr.
Brazie, Lawrence	Hastedt, William
Brennan, George	Marion, Pfc. George
Barlow, Ellsworth	Maxwell, Cpl. Harold
Benton, Cpl. Chauncey	Mead, Clarence (dis.)
Buckson, Cpl. Maxim	Miller, June
Buckson, William	Mott, Lt. Donald
Carr, Cdt. Byron	Nielson, Willard
Chaffee, Benjamin	Nelson, Sgt. Arthur
Chamberlain, Glendon (dis.)	Ostrowski, Leon
Crine, Sgt. Harold	Phillips, Capt. Herbert L.
Cruikshank, Sgt. Donald	Pratt, Roger
Dinan, MM1 c Alton	Rooney, Pfc. John
Dinan, Pfc. John	Rood, Sgt. Francis
Daley, 1st Sgt. Joseph	Rood, Pfc. Harold
Daley, Cpl. Eugene	Rowley, Merritt
Devine, Capt. Charles R.	Ranolde, Pfc. Paul
Dow, John	Stevens, MM2 c Alfred
Dribben, Lt. Cmdr. Seymour	Stevens, Sgt. Myles
Dunham, S1 c Ernest S.	Sellew, 2nd Lt. Welles
Dunham, AS Herbert A.	Schmulsky, Alex
Dyer, 2nd Lt. John F.	Skee, Peter
Emprimo, Pfc. Francis	Stalker, Ronald (dis.)
Emmons, Roger	Skjestad, Emil (dis.)
Fitzpatrick, Cpl. Francis	Stalker, Tech. Sgt. Homer
Fitzpatrick, Cpl. Joseph	Stephenson, Cpl. Laurence
Fitzpatrick, Thomas	Stephenson, Cdt. Charles R.
Fay, Pfc. George	Turner, Capt. Dudley S.
Forrest, Gilbert	Turner, Pfc. Julius
Goewey, Cpl. Ralph	Washalaski, Pfc. Steve
Goewey, Cpl. Everett	Washalaski, Pfc. John
Hall, Pfc. Philip	Whitney, Cdt. Roger A.
Hart, Pfc. Ernest	Whitney, Cdt. Hilton I. (dis.)
Hart, Wilbur, Jr.	Wing, Tech. Sgt. Charles
Hotchkiss, Po3 c John	Wing, John (Mer. Marine)
Johnston, 1st Lt. William	*Wing, Lieut. Lucius
Johnston, Pfc. Robert	Zerbe, Arthur
Johnston, Francis	Zucco, Sgt. Peter

\*Died of wounds received in action in Europe.

Note: Names listed without rating when rating was not known.

## NEW MARLBOROUGH STATE GUARD

(July 25, 1944)

The local company of State Guard was formed as a reserve company December 16, 1941, with Second Lieutenant Ernest C. Benway as commanding officer.

April 2, 1942, it was made a regular company.

December 1, 1943, the State Guard was brought under the direction of the U. S. Army. The Lee, Lenox, Egremont, Great Barrington, and New Marlborough companies were formed into the Fourth Battalion of the 22nd Infantry. The New Marlborough company was designated Headquarters Detachment of the 4th Battalion.

## LIST OF MEMBERS

Major Sheldon C. Collins	Pvt. Arthur Bachetti
1st Lt. Ernest C. Benway	Pvt. Arthur Barnum
2nd Lt. Clarence Nichols	Pvt. Raymond Bush
1st Sgt. William Stevens	Pvt. Rufus Brackley
Sgt. Maj. Roderick MacLean	Pvt. Robert Chapin
S. Sgt. A. L. Terry	Pvt. Robert Everett
Sgt. Richard Battistoni	Pvt. Arthur Hastedt
Sgt. Sheldon Fenn	Pvt. Walter Hart
Sgt. Robert Lindstrom	Pvt. Arthur Hebert
Sgt. Clifford Love	Pvt. Ward Hewins
Corp. Henry Andrews	Pvt. James Oates
Corp. Roland Brewer	Pvt. Ronald Ovitt
Corp. George King	Pvt. Geoffrey Prentiss
Corp. William Hall	Pvt. Frank Rood
Corp. Melville Fuller	Pvt. Lewis Rote
Pfc. Donald Amstead	Pvt. Hadley Stalker
Pfc. Harold Greene	Pvt. Arthur White
Pfc. Richard Stalker	Pvt. Kenneth Warner
Pfc. Robert E. Thompson	

Drills are held each Wednesday night from 8:00 to 10:00 o'clock, at the town hall in Mill River. Visitors are welcome.

## NEW MARLBOROUGH INDUSTRIES

Of the earliest mills we know very little, except that in 1739 a contract was made with Nathan Ward to build a grist-mill and a saw-mill, which was subsequently built on the "Iron Works (Konkapot) River."

In 1780 an iron foundry and forge was established just below the Nahum Ward saw-mill. Bar iron only was made. The ore was mainly from Salisbury, but some came from the Corashire section of Monterey. Elias Keyes was one of the founders. The forging was done by trip-hammers run by the waterfall of the mill dam.

In 1785 Jedediah Sisson, who was apprenticed a blacksmith in the Ward mill, located a shop and made plows, both with wooden and iron "shares." He also manufactured wagons.

In 1791 Isaac Turner was operating a tannery in Southfield.

We know that about 1831 Elihu Burritt was an apprentice in the brass foundry of Harvey Holmes in New Marlborough village.

In 1855 an historian wrote: "In the western part of New Marlborough a manufacturing village is springing up, called Mill River. It is situated in a long and narrow valley of the Konkapot river. The principal manufactories are paper and lumber. Its distance from the Housatonic Railroad is seven miles. It is the only part of the town which seems to be making a true and steady progress. Western migration is sapping "the old parishes" here as elsewhere, although the town as a whole gains in population. There are three paper mills. Warren Wheeler & Co. employ forty hands, John Carriel & Co. employ twenty hands, and John Carriel employs ten hands. They turn out \$87,000 worth of paper annually. In Southfield about \$6000 worth of whip-lashes are made yearly, and in the town as a whole about 15,000 casks of lime are sent to market."

In 1880 the population was 1876. In 1876 the population had been 2045, which was probably about the peak.

In 1885 another writer stated that "Mill River has two churches, one hotel, three stores, the town hall, about fifty dwellings, and has, within a mile, eight dams with levels varying from seven to twenty-five feet, and aside from this is one of the loveliest villages in Southern Berkshire."

The first paper mill was built in Mill River in 1836 by Wheeler & Gibson. It manufactured writing-paper. Other paper manufacturers were Sheldon & Babcock, Crosby & Robbins, John Carroll, Carroll & Goodwin, Beech & Adams, E. C. Brett & Co., Paul Face.

The Konkapot river was originally called Iron Works river from a forge for bar iron early established on it. Water power and charcoal were easily obtained and pig-iron was brought from Salisbury, Connecticut, and ore from Monterey. • Mill River had two fulling mills for homespun cloth in the early days and Southfield had one. Hats were made in Southfield and also in New Marlborough village. Powder was manufactured in Mill River by Harvey Holmes & Co. in 1833-'34. Tanneries were very common. Near the Sheldon place in New Marlborough village were a tannery and brass foundry. Andirons and other articles for household use were made. John A. Doncaster built a grist-mill in Hartsville in 1804. Hartsville also had a machine shop and foundry. Two miles south of Mill River village Dr. John Scoville had a cheese factory in 1859. Henry Sisson became the proprietor of a saw-, planing- and pulp-mill in Mill River in 1857.

Other famous mills were those of William B. Gibson in the Huxley district, and that of Chauncey Brewer in Mill River. The Mill River tradition is still carried on by Edwin Stanton and his son, Eldred, in saw-mill and garage.

"In 1866 Orchable Taft established the pottery works in Clayton, which later became the property of Robert L. Taft. The clay which was mined was used in the manufacture of fine pottery and to some extent in the manufacture of paper. It was washed to free it from impurities, then dried, after which it was sent to various parts of the country." (The foregoing was written in 1885.) Orchable Taft was a relative of President Taft. He carried on the industry for many years. The property was operated by the Berkshire China Clay Corporation. Under the name of the Berkshire White Portland Cement Co. and the direction of Joseph Tinker, the concern was employing about seventy-five men. The drying sheds were over a half mile long. The cement was used in white tile wainscoting, floors, etc., and has sold as high as twelve dollars a barrel. The dried clay was mixed with certain rare lime-stone found in Egremont, then was ground, sifted and dried.

In later days H. L. Barber operated a whip factory in Southfield, Arthur C. Lockwood ran a creamery, and for the last fifty-odd years Turner & Cook, Inc., have been turning out rawhide products in Southfield. In Hartsville Edward Whitney has op-

erated as a contractor, and A. F. Whitney & Son as blacksmith and auto repair shop. The saw-mill is now operated by Charles E. Wyman.

#### SOUTH BERKSHIRE INSTITUTE

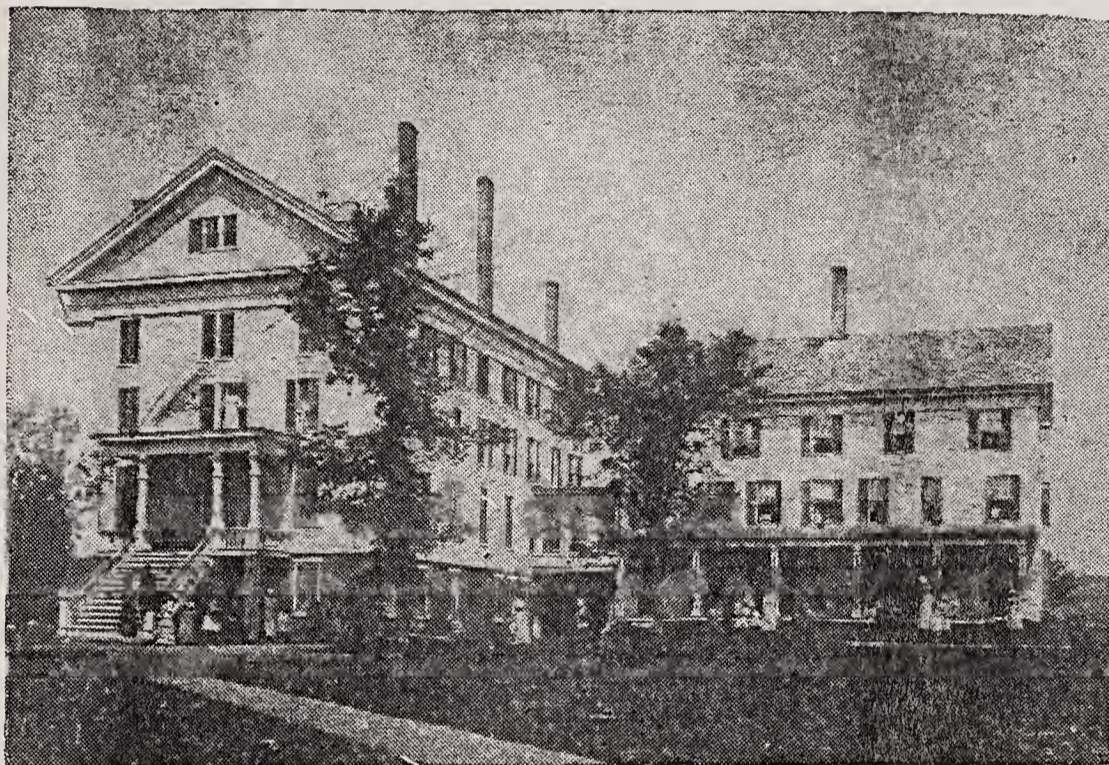
In June, 1856, Julius Rising, James Hyde, John Brewer and Edwin Adams were the organizers of a corporation by the name of South Berkshire Institute, for the purpose of establishing a boarding- and day-school for both sexes. The school building was located "contiguous to the very plot upon which the first meeting-house was built; has commodious buildings, spacious grounds, and scenery unsurpassed."

The principal promoter of the school was Edward Stevens of Saratoga, N. Y., a native of New Marlborough. From 1860 to 1870 the school was very successful, having a hundred students. The bell in the cupola of South Berkshire Institute was the gift of Rev. Sylvester Burt, pastor of the Congregational church in Great Barrington.

The Institute began its career in 1857 with J. A. McIntosh, A.M., as principal, assisted by four lady teachers. In 1860 N. W. Metcalf, A.M., became principal. In 1861 B. F. Parsons, A.M., and Mrs. Parsons, became the school heads and stayed until 1782. For a short period the school was closed, but opened in 1876 with Professor S. T. Frost as head, and continued for the next half-dozen years. In 1862 the school had as board of trustees:

Rev. R. T. Searle, president, New Marlborough; Theron Warner, Esq., vice-president, New Marlborough; Col. James Hyde, vice-president, New Marlborough; J. A. Rising, M.D., secretary, New Marlborough; Rev. Aaron Pickett, Sandisfield; Rev. Otis Lombard, Southfield; E. W. B. Canning, Stockbridge; E. R. Stevens, Saratoga Springs, N. Y.; W. C. Langdon, Monterey; Capt. J. S. Catlin, New Marlborough; S. K. Norton, New Marlborough; John Brewer, New Marlborough; C. L. Hartwell, New Marlborough; Jarvis Pike, New Marlborough; Stephen Powell, New Marlborough; Noah Gibson, New Marlborough; J. W. Millard, New Marlborough.

A few years ago the writer stopped in North Colebrook and made the acquaintance of an old man. It turned out that he was



SOUTH BERKSHIRE INSTITUTE



ELIHU BURRITT MONUMENT

the grandson of the owner of the old inn there, a Mr. Carrington Phelps of Phelps Tavern, and remembered when the stage-coach from Hartford to Albany stopped at the inn each morning for breakfast for the passengers and for four fresh horses for the next stretch to New Marlborough. Mr. Phelps, the grandson with whom I talked, kindly showed my wife and me the old ball-room in the second story of the old inn, the bar, and many other interesting relics of days long gone by. He said that he had attended South Berkshire Institute, and stated that after leaving the Institute and while attending Yale College he became the world's champion "single-sculler," which means that old South Berkshire Institute produced a world's champion boat-man.

#### ELIHU BURRITT

No story of New Marlborough would be complete without mention of Elihu Burritt. New Marlborough is proud that "the learned blacksmith" and "apostle of international peace" lived here, learned his trade here and many of the languages with which he was familiar. On New Marlborough village green a monument with bronze plate bears witness of the regard of his townspeople. Burritt came to New Marlborough in 1831 at eighteen years of age. He worked as an apprentice blacksmith in Harvey Holmes' brass foundry. It stood on the Umpachene stream, near a saw-mill and tannery, probably near the eastern end of the village. Burritt fell in love with Miss Elizabeth Sheldon, "the most beautiful girl in the town, and his love was returned, but her parents would not allow the marriage." It is said that this episode furnished the stimulation which drove Burritt on to learning his many languages. Although a girl's parents might tell their daughter that marriage to a blacksmith was too lowly a step, it would be more difficult to convince her that marriage to a man who could write and speak fifty languages would be too lowly.

Burritt was able to indulge a passion for literature in his spare moments at the forge. The writer's grandfather has spoken of Burritt as standing at his forge, working the bellows with one hand, with a book propped open on the chimney in front of him, from which he would be diligently reading. In this desultory fashion he conquered Latin, Greek, French, Spanish and German,

and by the time he was thirty years of age he could speak fifty languages. He gradually acquired fame with his increasing store of knowledge and at last embarked on a lecture tour to various places in the United States and Europe on behalf of peace. He organized "The Friends of Peace" at Brussels, Paris, Frankfort, London, Manchester and Edinburgh. He founded *The Christian Citizen* at Worcester, a paper to advance his views on peace. He published innumerable pamphlets. He died in New Britain, Conn., his birthplace, in 1879.

Burritt's monument on the green in New Marlborough village bears this inscription:

1810 — Elihu Burritt — 1879

The Learned Blacksmith, Organizer of the League of Universal Brotherhood. Author of the "Congress of Nations," Advocate of low ocean freight rates and ocean postage. Following his Trade and Studying at the Forge in New Marlborough, 1831-1833.

The Rev. John C. Brigham, D.D., was born in New Marlborough in 1794. He graduated at Williams College in 1819 and at Andover in 1822. He was elected Assistant Secretary of the American Bible Society in 1826. He became Secretary in 1828. He also was an agent of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and resided for a time in South America. He distributed the Scriptures in Spanish in Argentina, Chili, Peru, Columbia and Mexico.

Professor Frost wrote some paragraphs which give us a picture of the roads, the stage routes and country taverns. "The present century was well advanced," and by that he meant the nineteenth century, "before the highways were much better than the wood-roads in the forests. They were seldom worked and were often almost impassable. One of the mortars for the (military) works at West Point was dragged over Blandford Hill by twenty yoke of oxen and sixty men. Much of the traveling was on horseback, more on foot. A family Sabbath scene on the way to church gave a picture like the flight into Egypt; mother and baby riding upon the horse, the able-bodied and unencumbered walking by their side. Loads were moved by oxen and more easily in winter when the roads were in the best of condition for

business and travel. The Guiteaus, (a family which gave to the town a doctor, a deacon and a member of the Provincial Congress) moved to the 'far West,' as Central New York was then called, and they made the journey with oxen and sled. The town of Hudson was at that time the Berkshire port of entry. It stood at the head of ship navigation, then a very significant fact, and, as roads improved, it became a famous center and terminus of stage lines." The old ware-houses still stand in Hudson, along the river front.

"The products of farms and dairies were carried to Hudson and the same teams brought back the heavier groceries, such as salt and flour. These were not usually sold at country stores and each family laid in a year's supply for itself. Corn meal and rye flour were then in general use. The amount of travel and freight to the Hudson is shown by the fact that one of the early railroads in the United States was built from Hudson eastward to State Line. About the year 1800 the first wagon came into town, and about fifteen years later came the first one-horse wagon. Country taverns were frequent all along these routes. Many an old house is pointed out as 'once kept for a tavern.' A huge fireplace marks the bar-room and the ball-room can still be recognized," generally on the upper floor. "At these 'wayside inns' teamsters and travelers met like the characters in the *Canterbury Tales*. Around roaring fires they interchanged what would now seem like old news, of events of state and nation weeks and months after they had transpired.

"The first good roads came with the mail stages. A splendidly-equipped opposition stage line, owning seventy-five horses and nine stages, was established in 1834." (It is not clear what Professor Frost meant by the word "opposition.") "These stages were known as the 'Red Bird Line,' famous all over the United States. The Red Bird Line was originated by Amos Kendall, Postmaster-General under Jackson, and was a part of his design of re-organization of the postal department on a plan which has remained essentially unchanged. The Postmaster-General was a Massachusetts man by birth and was said to have been especially proud of this particular line (Hartford-Albany.) "Old residents yet remember" (1885) "how General (Winfield) Scott, on his way from Hartford to Albany and thence to the Northern

Frontier to look after threatened difficulties with England, reached New Marlborough at 4:00 P. M. and passed the night at the old hotel. The general allowed the people to see him from the upper piazza. The Red Bird stage-coaches brought mail one day from Hartford, the next from Albany. Before the advent of this new line, the mail had come but once a week. The highest point on this line from Hartford to Albany is about three miles east of New Marlborough village.

"The mail had, for many years, been carried on horseback. The first postoffice was established September 15th, 1806. The commission from Gideon Granger, Postmaster-General under Jefferson, reads as follows: 'Know ye that confiding in the intelligence, ability and punctuality of Stephen Powell, Esq., I do appoint him Deputy Post Master of New Marlboro.'

"It will be seen that New Marlborough was then decidedly central in position. The great stage-coach lines between Boston and Albany, and Hartford and Albany, met near the north-west border of the town, while the new Red Bird Line, on the latter route, made the village inn its 'midway station.' I suppose this old inn saw many famous characters. We have already referred to General Scott. General Lafayette climbed down from the stage-coach here the night he stayed over-night in the Catlin house (now owned by Mr. Ticknor.) Paul Revere may have been put down there on his visit to the town in order to organize Cincinnatus Chapter of the Lodge of Masons. How many famous people have looked out on the village green from the upper balcony of the 'double piazza' we shall never know."

In front of the inn lies New Marlborough village green. Lawyer O. C. Bidwell of Great Barrington, some time in the year 1909, found an interesting document concerning the early history of New Marlborough. It was a deed of gift to the town by Cincinnatus Lodge of Masons, of New Marlborough, of the land in the center of the village, the "village green." The date of the instrument is 1795.

Cincinnatus Lodge, now located in Great Barrington, was chartered and installed by Paul Revere, of "Midnight Ride" fame, in New Marlborough in December, 1795. Among its charter members were Elihu Grant, Benjamin Pierce, Hezekiah Kilbourn, Sylvanus Moss, Obadiah Smith, Moses Hopkins, Zeba-

diah Deane, Walter Deane, Drake Mills, John Shaw, Milo Shaw, Gideon Post, Abel Smith, Noah Church, John Nash, Daniel Chappell, Samuel Carrington, Reuben Buckman, Obadiah Dickinson, Ebenezer Chadwick, Gideon Canfield, and Ebenezer Gregory. [See footnote 11.]

Seth Norton, who had his first home in New Marlborough in that part of the town known as "East Indies," was inn-keeper in 1832. Deacon Caleb Wright also ran the inn, probably from about 1770 to 1815.

In 1832 each town in Massachusetts elected one representative to the legislature. New Marlborough's Whig majority previous to that time had been about 100, but President Jackson had given everyone such an interest in politics that the Democrats there went to work to defeat them. In those days newspapers were scarce in country towns and the Democrats procured each week 200 copies of *The New York Evening Post* and quietly distributed them among the Whigs who would most likely be influenced by Democratic ideas. So thoroughly were these papers believed that 40 Whig voters were made Democrats. In the fall of 1832 the town meeting opened for the election of state officers. Colonel Fitch was the Democratic candidate for representative and Squire Benjamin Sheldon was the Whig candidate. When the ballots were counted the vote was a tie. A majority was required to elect, and when there was no choice, a town meeting could vote for three successive days.

Upon the announcement of the first vote the excitement was unbounded and each party commenced to beat around for stray voters. Each turn of the ballot-box was keenly watched, and first one party would come within one or two of a majority, and then the other. The Democrats sent to various towns in Connecticut for men who had left New Marlborough, and their votes were counted under protest.

Two old men in advanced years who did not care to go to the polls, Mr. Fairbanks, a Whig, who lived near Lake Buel opposite the George Gibson farm, and Asa Coles, a Democrat living on the Mill River road, had faithfully agreed to "pair off" their votes. On the last day the Whigs went to Mr. Fairbanks and finally made him believe that he had been double-crossed by his neighbor, so he marched into the meeting-house amid a great

cheer, and cast his ballot. The Democrats immediately hastened after Mr. Coles and brought him a distance of more than eight miles, arriving just in time to save his vote. Aaron Stevens, an ardent Mill River Democrat, had been terribly injured by a trip-hammer just a few days before the election and had been confined to his bed. His face was so terribly bruised that he could not see. The Democrats propped him up in a wagon, drove to the meeting-place, and carried him to the polls. He was carried to the ballot-box and there was told to drop the ballot, which he did, unable to see what he was doing, but trusting his Democratic friends. As he was being carried into the hall, Squire Sheldon said with amused horror, "What grave-yard did they get that man from?"

The story was one that did not stop within the confines of New Marlborough, and Postmaster Gideon Molles of Hartford often told the story with the addition that gravel-stones from the grave were rolling from the voter's body. The Whigs, not to be outdone, sent a wagon for Jesse Woodworth of Mill River, who was in the last stages of consumption. He was carried on a bed and that night died.

On the morning of the last day a Democratic hatter by the name of Wilson was found drunk in Captain Adam Kasson's barn. He had not voted and it was openly charged that the Whigs were responsible for his condition and had placed him in the barn. After considerable work he was partly aroused from his stupor and assisted to the polls. A ballot was placed in his hand which was held over the box. His arm was then given a good shake by one of the assistants and he dropped his ballot into the box and was hurried from the hall.

This, the last ballot, left the election still undecided. The managing politicians, Squire Sheldon, Captain Catlin, Seth Norton, Adam Kasson, Harvey Holmes and Noah Gibson, did not sleep a wink during the three days and nights of the voting, but spent their entire time, both day and night, prowling around after the few scattered voters.

The finding of the above record preserves for future generations the account of what was probably New England's most famous town election.

(The above was quoted from the Springfield Republican of March 3, 1935.)

The following we believe to be a correct list of New Marlborough citizens who have occupied seats in the General Court:

Jabez Ward, 1776; Captain Zenas Wheeler, 1777; Jabez Ward, Esq., 1780; Noah Church, 1782-'83; Jabez Ward, Esq., 1784; Capt. Daniel Taylor, 1785-'90; Col. Daniel Taylor, 1791; Obadiah Ward, Esq., 1792-'95; Ebenezer Smith, Esq., 1796-'97; Benjamin Wheeler, 1798-'04; Zenas Wheeler, 1806-'08; Benjamin Wheeler, Benjamin Smith, 1809; Benjamin Wheeler, Edward Stevens, 1811; Edward Stevens, Elihu Ward, 1812; Ebenezer Hyde, Elihu Ward, 1813-'14; Ebenezer Hyde, Isaac Turner, 1815; Elihu Ward, Edward Stevens, 1816; Ebenezer Hyde, Benjamin Wheeler, 1817; Ebenezer Hyde, 1818; Edward Stevens, 1819; Benjamin Wheeler, 1820; Zenas Wheeler, 1821; Benjamin Sheldon, 1822; Solomon Kasson, 1823-'24; Isaac Turner, 1825-'26; Edward Stevens, 1827; Warren Wheeler, 1828; Benjamin Sheldon, 1829; Warren Wheeler, 1830; Benjamin Wheeler, Jr., 1831; Newton Kasson, Benjamin Wheeler, Jr., 1832; Elias J. Werden, Benjamin Wheeler, Jr., 1833; Aretas Rising, Elias J. Werden, 1834; Levi L. Smith, 1836; Samuel Evans, Levi L. Smith, 1837; Noah Gibson, 1838; Joseph W. Howe, 1839; George Smith, 1840; Linas Catlin, 1841; John P. Wadsworth, 1842; James Hyde, 1843; Zenas Rhoades, 1844; Joseph W. Howe, 1850; Benjamin Smith, 1851; Ammi Warner, 1852; Emmons Arnold, 1853; Edwin Adams, 1856; John P. Wadsworth, 1857; James Hyde, 1858; Cyrus L. Hartwell, 1861; Grove Gaylord, 1864; Andrew J. Freeman, 1868; Henry D. Sisson, 1871; William B. Gibson, 1874; Andrew J. Freeman, 1877; Lorrin P. Keyes, 1880; Lorrin P. Keyes, 1884; Henry D. Sisson, 1895; Charles G. Smith, 1899.

Two New Marlborough men have been sent to the State Senate, *viz.*: Joseph Fitch, 1836-'37, and Lorrin P. Keyes, in 1904-'05.

In the south part of the town there is a limestone cave, known for years as the "Cat Hole," which extends down into the earth for a distance of perhaps eighty feet, in a sort of letter S. This cave is about a quarter of a mile east of the road between Southfield and Canaan, on the road to Canaan Valley. The entrance is a gradual slope through a quite narrow opening. Then

comes a sudden drop of about fifteen feet into a large chamber. The ceiling of this chamber is probably thirty feet or more from the floor and yet it is possible to make out initials painted or scratched on this ceiling. It is somewhat of a puzzle as to how this might have been done. The cave doubles under its upper part and with another drop which requires a ladder or a pole to negotiate, one comes to another room. This second room has a very low ceiling and gradually dwindles to an aperture so small the one can wriggle down it no further. But from far in the subterranean depths there float up to one the tinkling sound of running water.

In the Huxley district, within a few feet of the Connecticut line, is one of the most beautiful waterfalls in New England, long known as Campbell's Falls. The water of Whiting River tumbles down in two drops, a distance of seventy-five feet. Massachusetts and Connecticut have jointly planned state parks which include the falls and the surrounding area. There are picnic tables, stone fireplaces, even wood ready-cut for your fire.

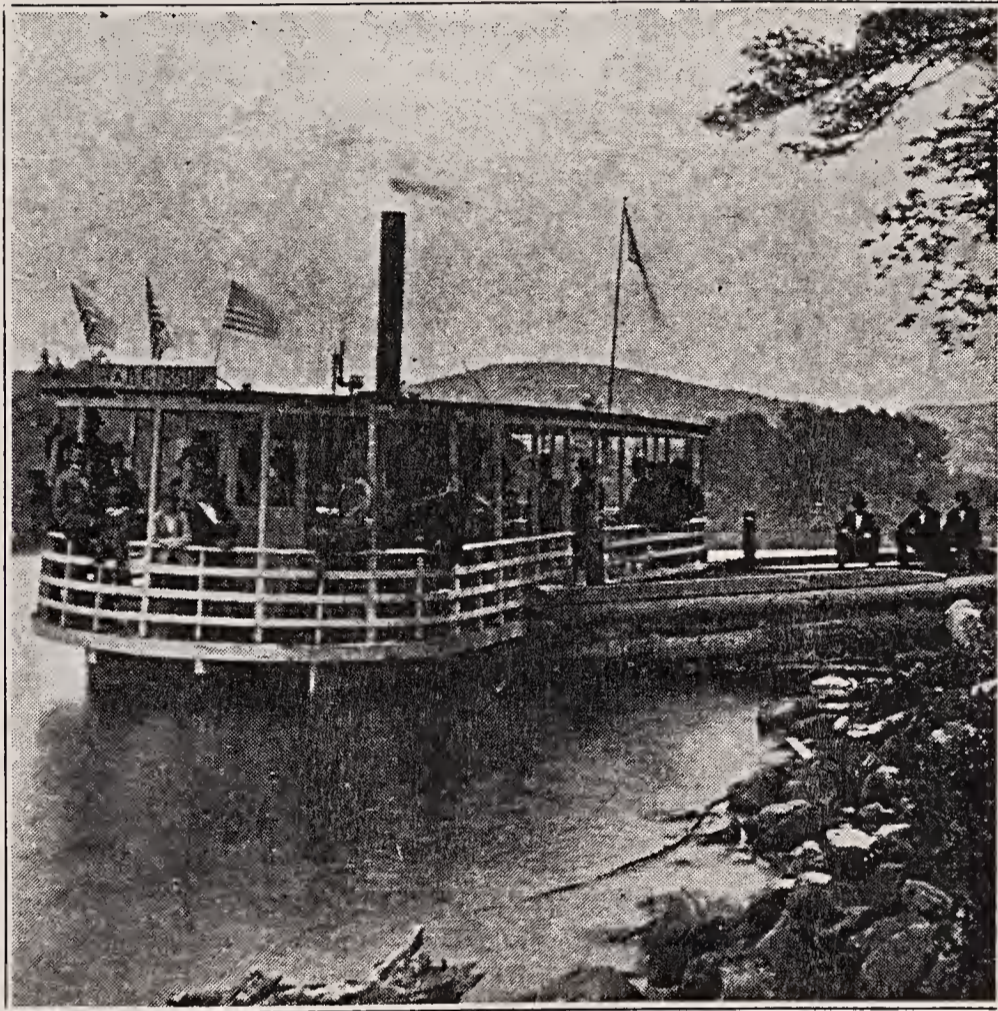
Another beautiful waterfall is that near the point where the Umpachene joins the Konkapot, known as Umpachene Falls. This is on land now owned by Mr. Robert K. Wheeler.

Another strange and unforgettable natural phenomenon near the village of Southfield, on land of Henry A. Beers, is the "Tipping Rock," a boulder taller than a man and twice as long which must weigh many tons, and yet which is so delicately balanced on the stone beneath that one may tip it with one's little finger, so that it rocks back and forth.

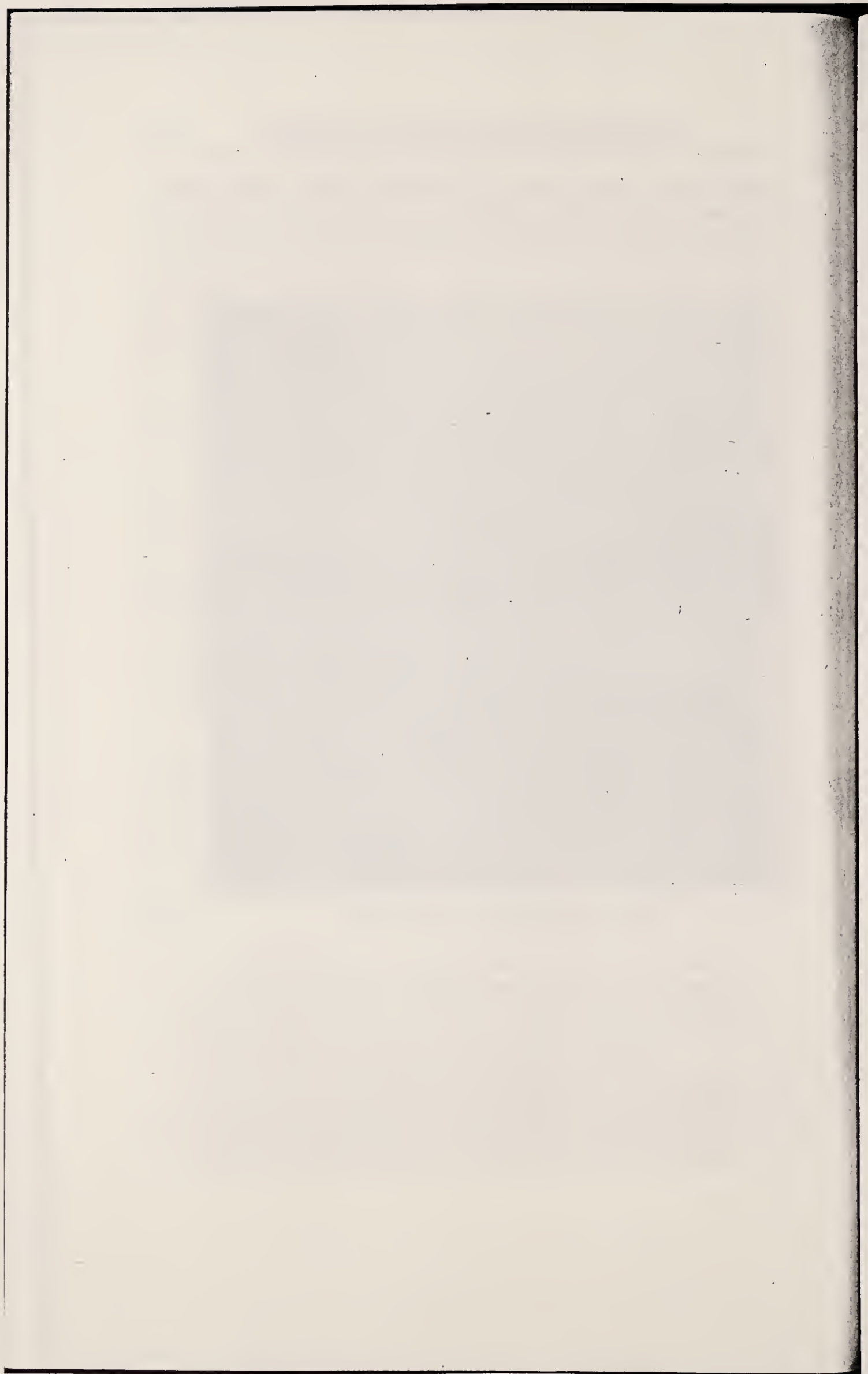
In the first history written of New Marlborough occurs the following description of events which led to the naming of Lake Buel:

In the north-west part of the town is a pond about two miles in length, called Six-mile Pond. It was so called first by several families of Indians who resided six miles distant in what is now Great Barrington and (who) resorted to it for the purpose of fishing.

"A most melancholy event occurred at this pond, July 23, 1812, the day of the National Fast, on account of the war which had a little time before been proclaimed against Great Britain. Seven persons were upset in a boat, viz.: Almond Benton, Solomon Jackson Tracy and



FIRST STEAMBOAT ON LAKE BUEL



Ruth Mills, of New Marlboro; Cynthia Garfield, Abigail Buell, Lucy Upham and Cynthia Upham, of Tyringham. Almond Benton, aged 19, Ruth Mills, aged 18, and Betsey Garfield, aged 21, were drowned. The others were saved. For his great exertions in rescuing these, Mr. Buel was honored with a medal by the Washington Benevolent Society of Berkshire."

The town of New Marlborough further honored the young man by naming the pond Lake Buel. The old history by Rev. Harley Goodwin continues:

"It is sometimes observed that sudden and alarming providences are seldom followed with saving benefit to the subjects. But it ought to be noted here, to the honor of divine grace, that the four persons just named who were delivered from death, have since made a public profession of religion. They all date back to this time of peril and of mercy. Mr. Tracy is now a candidate for the holy ministry."

#### THE CENTRAL SCHOOL

The name of A. L. Terry should go down in New Marlborough history, for he it was who first suggested that the town build a new Central School building, modernize its teaching methods and do so at once. This statement was made in 1930 at a meeting of the Parent-Teacher Association held in Southfield.

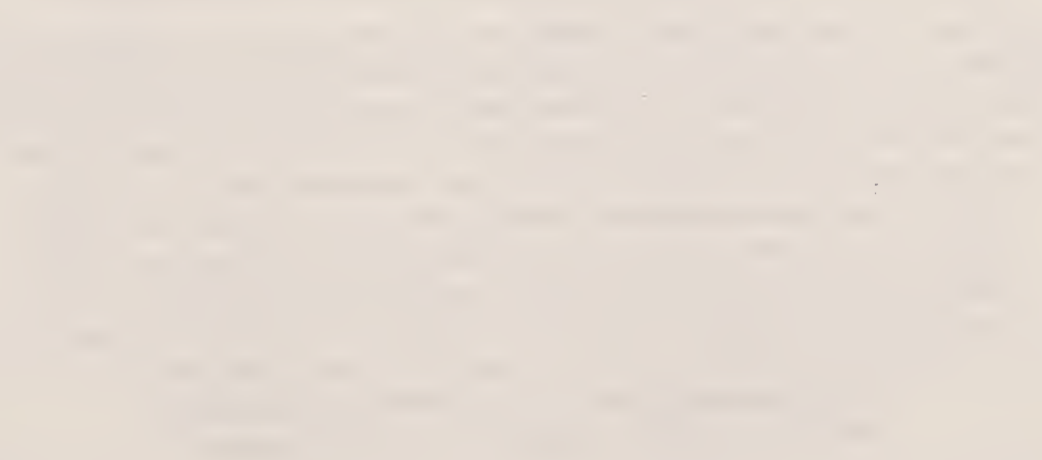
The interest of the P. T. A. being aroused, at the town meeting there was appointed a committee "on the needs and advisability of a new school building," consisting of Harriet E. Tinker, secretary; P. A. Brennan, Robert C. Stevens, Alton S. Dinan, and Linwood J. Corser. Their report was that a new building should be built and that it could be built for \$35,000.

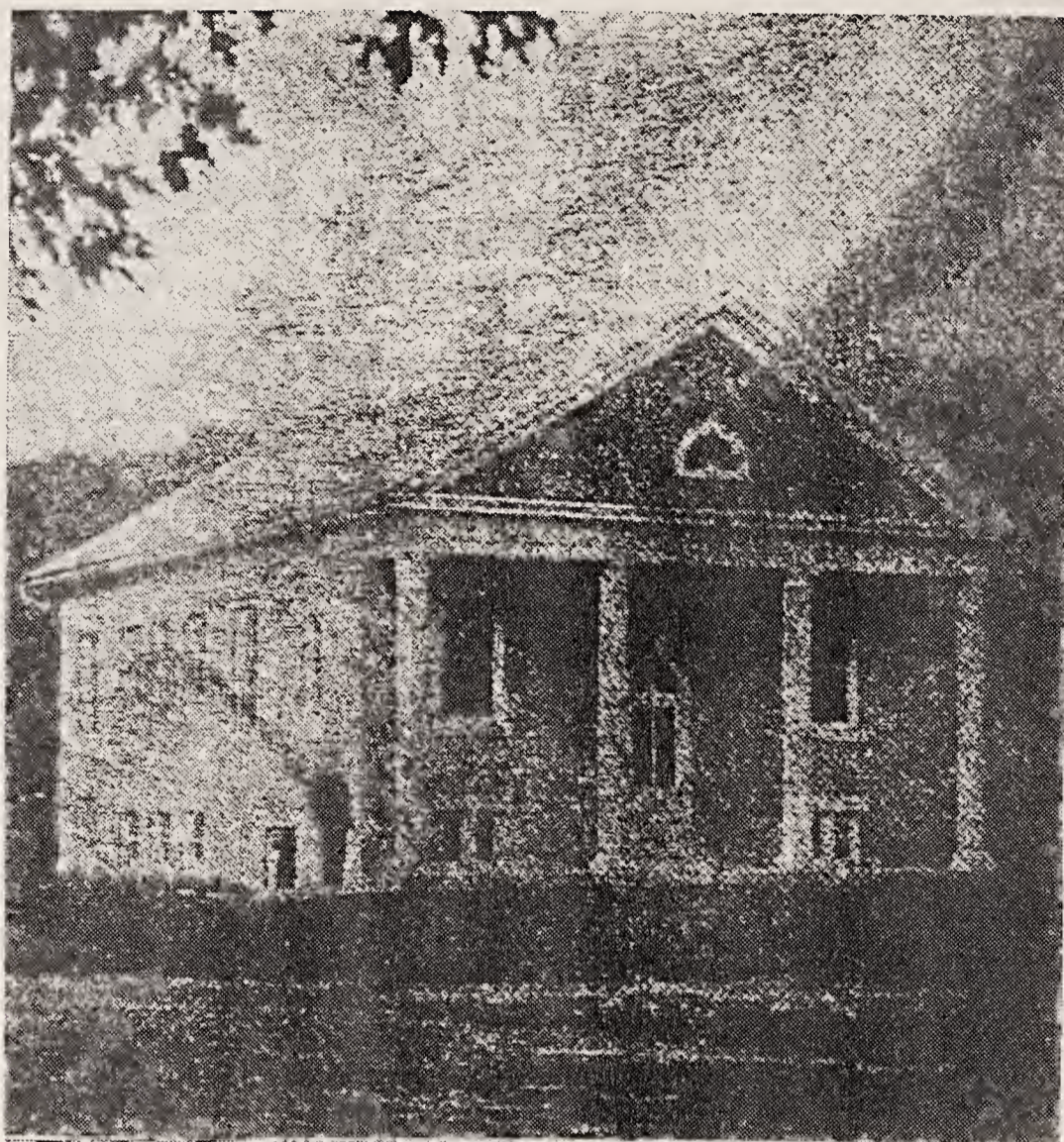
The town warrant for 1931 carried an article: "To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate money for the construction and equipment of a new school building." At the town meeting the article was carried, and the project was soon started.

A building committee was chosen, consisting of H. A. Cook, P. A. Brennan, Raymond Whitney, R. I. Rhoades, and L. J. Corser. The Central School was planned to take care of all the children in the town, through the high school grades. The building was constructed of brick and the aid of competent school architects resulted in a building functionally designed and mod-

ern in every respect, with air-conditioning, its own water supply from a driven well, a large play-room in the basement, and a laboratory with the latest equipment available. The State Department of Education considered the new school in New Marlborough and the Pittsfield school the two best plants in Western Massachusetts.

In 1932 the School Committee, consisting of Ralph I. Rhoades, Alton S. Dinan and Hadley K. Turner, decided that the school system itself needed changing to keep pace with the new building, and authorized the Superintendent, Charles Stephenson, to re-grade the school so that there would be six grades in the Lower School, two grades in the Junior High School, and four grades in the Senior High School. In the Lower School, teachers were to teach two grades only. As a result of the new set-up, the scholarship, as shown by Standard U. S. tests, began to improve. In a year's time the average had jumped from far below the national average to a little above. When another year had passed, the tests showed that the scholarship had gained again and was far above the national average. At that point the State of Massachusetts gave the New Marlborough Central High School an "A" rating, one of two in Berkshire at that time.





THE NEW FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY IN MILL RIVER, MASS.

Proposed, Promoted, and Carnegie Gift obtained by MARCUS H. ROGERS, who, in addition to sharing in buying the site for it, has provided, by trust fund endowment, [more than equalling the cost of the building,] to "share with the town" forever, in its maintenance. The walls are of gray concrete brick, with slate roof. The four attractive fluted columns in front are made of white concrete, cast in 'sections' by the Promoter, the last one of the twenty 'sections' required having been cast on his 85th birthday, Oct. 14, 1920. Mr. John A. Lowe of the Brooklyn Library, regards the columns as "the crowning glory of the otherwise handsome building, rarely equaled in a rural town."

On the opposite page is a copy of a paragraph written by Marcus H. Rogers explaining his gift to the town of the New Marlborough Free Public Library. This picture is an etching which Mr. Rogers made after he had passed his 85th birthday, with hand tools, and which he printed over the paragraph as reproduced on the opposite page. This press was made before Mr. Rogers had ever seen a printing press. It is on exhibition at the library building. This press was made when Mr. Rogers was a boy, living in New Marlborough.

This paragraph by Mr. Rogers, less than a hundred words, tells, better than your author could in a thousand, the story of New Marlborough Free Public Library.

## FOOTNOTES

(1) Many arrowheads have been discovered in plowing on the old Kasson farm in Southfield, also at the other end of the village in the "big meadow" above the bridge at the north end of the village. The writer's father told him that Umpachene used to come to "the big meadow" on the Umpachene River and make his summer camp there. It has always been my understanding that it is for that reason that the stream bears Umpachene's name.

(2) Edwin Brewer, A.M., writing the history of Tyringham in 1826, penned the following: "The history of this town and indeed of all the towns in the southeastern part of the County, may be traced to the commencement of the year 1735, when it became an object to cut a road across the Green Mountain range between Westfield and Sheffield and thus open a direct communication between Boston and Albany."

(3) All the historians that the writer has read on the subject of New Marlborough make a great deal of the mystery of this river being called "Iron Works River" at a date previous to the iron works at Mill River and Hartsville having been constructed. Apparently they missed out on the fact that Colonel Ashley had constructed such a project at the point at which the Konkapot (Iron Works River) enters the Housatonic and from which it probably received its early name of Iron Works River.

(4) In those days church was held all day long with an "Intermission" in the middle of the day at which time luncheons were brought out and eaten. The text in this case sounds as though the New Marlborough church may have lasted into the evening.

(5) The proposition which the church accepted was as follows: "voted, that no person shall be admitted as a member of this church except he shall appear, in the eye of Christian charity, to be a true and sincere friend of religion and to have visible qualifications of a real disciple of our blessed Redeemer."

(6) Deacon William Ellis read a very interesting paper on the Southfield Congregational Church at the Centennial Celebration, November 11, 1894.

(7) It is said that this is the first case in American history in which neither rum nor tobacco made up a part of the purchase price, and the New Marlborough settlers were so proud of it that they especially mentioned it in their report to the General Court.

(8) The "Widow Howe's Inn" at which the New Marlborough proprietors habitually met for their meetings is now known as the "Wayside Inn" at South Sudbury and has been beautifully restored by Mr. Henry Ford. It should be a shrine for the people of New Marlborough. South Sudbury is the adjoining town to Marlborough.

(9) Apparently the backers of the new church which was being built in Mill River had convinced Mr. Crowther that he should be the pastor of the new church and that he should bring his congregation along with him. From the record one assumes that Mr. Crowther held a "rump" meeting on the subject which voted to attend worship at the new Mill River meeting house, and that a subsequent meeting of the full membership rescinded the action.

(10) In suggesting that Gov. Belcher, with the aid of the Provincial General Court, was preparing for the struggle that he felt was to come with the French, with particular reference to the forts on Lake Champlain, the author calls attention to the following inter-related events. The Mis-

sion at Stockbridge, with its four white mission families, to Christianize and make friends with the Indians; the four white families to exhibit to the Indians the white man's way of life, (1734). The project of "the Great Road," (1735). It would be a way to move armies and heavy weapons to attack Ticonderoga, and was so used in 1744. The formation of the four townships to protect the flanks of "the Great Road," (started in 1735). The commissioning of Chief Konkapot and Chief Umpachene in the Provincial Militia. Undoubtedly this was a move to hold the Indians to the cause of the British, or perhaps we should say, of the Colonies. Later Konkapot did become a scout in "Roger's Rangers" and also raised a company of Indian soldiers.

(11) Research makes it seem doubtful that Paul Revere actually came to New Marlborough to install the lodge, but Masons whom we know have told us that Paul Revere's name is affixed to the charter. Family tradition has it that one of the Deane boys went to Boston as a messenger on this affair. And, on the other hand, the tradition of another family as well as the pen of one historian, indicates that Revere did come to New Marlborough. The reader may take his choice.

NEW MARLBOROUGH VILLAGE EXTENDS A  
CORDIAL WELCOME AND GREETING TO ALL OF  
ITS FRIENDS—OLD AND NEW— ON ITS  
TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY.

---

*In*  
*Appreciation*

for the work done  
by New Marlborough,  
Southfield and Mill River for  
"The Little House of  
Saint - Pantaleon"



*Captain and Mrs.*  
*Herbert Phillips*

# TUCKER, ANTHONY & CO.

*Members of  
New York Stock Exchange*

## INVESTMENT SECURITIES

53 State Street  
BOSTON

120 Broadway  
NEW YORK

Compliments of

**MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH HART**

---

Compliments of

**Greetings from THE GEORGE LESTERS**

---

Compliments of

**MR. AND MRS. FRANK OSTROWSKI**

---

Compliments of

**MISSES EVELYN AND JEAN FITZSIMMONS**

---

In Memory of

**EUGENE DALEY**

---

Compliments of

**JANET C. TICKNOR**

---

Compliments of

**MRS. THOMAS DUFFY**

---

Compliments of

**MR. AND MRS. JACK STEVENSON**

---

Compliments of

**THE FRASERS**

---

Compliments of

**MR. AND MRS. JAMES A. MILLER**

---

Compliments of

**MR. AND MRS. JAMES OATES**

---

Compliments of

**MR. JOHN BIGFORD**



# MEPAL KENNELS

NEW MARLBOROUGH, MASS.

## COCKER SPANIELS

FOR SALE AND STUD

*Established Over Forty Years*



Mrs. J. Macy Willets and Mrs. Charles Scribner

*Owners*

PATRICK SHEA, *Manager*





# *Cassilis Farm*

NEW MARLBOROUGH, MASS.

Registered  
Hackney Ponies

FOR SALE AND STUD




ALSO

REGISTERED JERSEY CATTLE



Mrs. J. Macy Willets

*Owner*



*Greetings to all from*

MRS. H. L. LANGHAAR  
*and*  
THE WELLES H. SELLEWS

---

*Greetings from*

CANON THOMAS A. SPARKS  
MISS SPARKS and MISS TUCKERMAN

*Greetings from*

the Maxwells

---

*Compliments of*

GEDNEY FARM

---

*Compliments of*

MRS. FLORENCE CHRIS

---

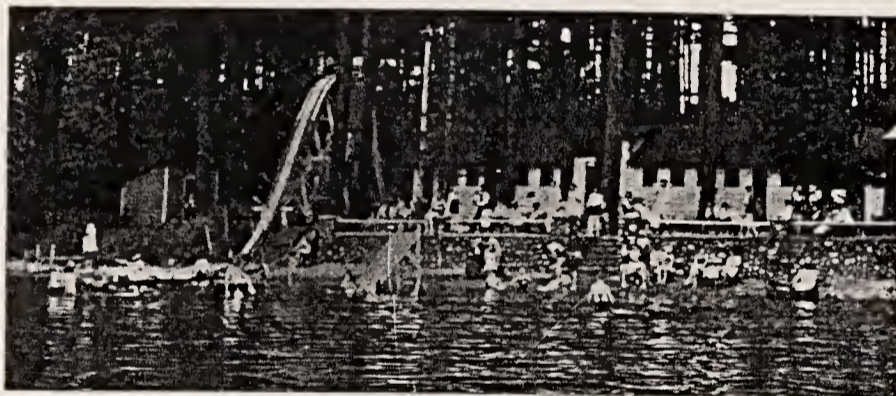
*Greetings from*

THE FRANK R. WRIGHTS

---

GIBSON'S GROVE

Lake Buel



GEORGE F. GIBSON, *Proprietor*

Telephone at Lake, Great Barrington 8887J

At Residence, Great Barrington 403W4

**BEAUTIFUL RECREATION PARK**

*Bathing, boating, canoeing, fishing; well-equipped camps by  
month or season; camp supplies; ice cream, candies, soft  
drinks. Season opens May fifteenth.*

SELLNER WATER TOBOGGAN SLIDE FOR BATHERS

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Bush  
Vida, Ruth, Pvt. Henry J., Pvt. Theodore  
Raymond, Stanley, Elsie, Hobart, Dorise  
Rodney, Robert, Leslie

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. George Gallagher

---

*Compliments of*

Private First Class John Rooney

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Rooney

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Culver

*Congratulations!*

WE ARE NOT SO OLD AS YOU, BUT OLD ENOUGH  
TO VOTE

HAVING SERVED THIS COMMUNITY WITH

AUTOMOBILE SERVICE  
FOR THIRTY YEARS

BREWER BROTHERS, Inc.  
CANAAN, CONNECTICUT

---

PLATT & GOSLEE



*Hardware, Paints, Sporting Goods*



GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

---

*Compliments of*

F. H. TURNER & Co.

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

TELEPHONE 20

*Compliments of*

Mr. Henry A. Beers

Mrs. Mary Tryon (Stone) Beers

Harry A., 3rd

David

Thomas

---

*Compliments of*

Miss Caroline C. Cook

---

*Compliments of*

Miss Frances B. Grant

Miss Caroline C. Grant

Miss Mary C. Grant

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Homer E. Harrington

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Hudson

Nellie S.

Sylvia S.

# Great Barrington Savings Bank



2% Interest  
Paid on Deposits

---

KAPLAN'S  
*Cleaners and Dyers*

—O—

STORE 8 RAILROAD ST. GREAT BARRINGTON  
TELEPHONE 197W

PLANT SHEFFIELD ROAD TELEPHONE 197R

---

*When you think of Drugs  
Think of YURKEE'S*

—  
**HARRY R. YURKEE**  
*Prescription Druggist*  
Hotel Miller Building  
Great Barrington Mass.

*Compliments of*  
**BOWEN MOTORS**  
*Great Barrington, Mass.*

*Compliments of*  
**Army & Navy Store**  
*Great Barrington, Mass.*



COMPLIMENTS  
OF

DECKER

AND

BEEBE

CANAAN  
CONN.



*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Melville W. Fuller

Nancy Pauline

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. John B. Guartha

Marion Russell Mildred Catherine

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Hjalmar S. Bohman

---

*Compliments of*

Rev. and Mrs. Arthur A. Simmons

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Alexander  
Pfc. Francis W.



*Compliments of*  
**COLONIAL THEATRE**  
*Canaan, Connecticut*



---

*Compliments of*

J. H. MALONEY, Inc.

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

---

*Compliments of*

Western Auto  
Associate Store

*Great Barrington, Mass.*

THOMAS H. FINN  
FABRIC SHOP

Woolens, Silks, Linens

Hosiery

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

## HAMMER PLUMBING CO.

32 RAILROAD STREET

GREAT BARRINGTON

TELEPHONE 112

RESIDENCE 745

### Still Available on Replacement or Under \$200

Heating Boilers, Radiation (all sizes), Lavatories, Toilet Combinations, Medicine Cabinets, Sink Cabinets, Kitchen Ensembles, Gas Ranges (both combination in coal and oil), Tile Board, Tile Cement, Chrom Corners, Base and Top Mouldings, Range Boilers, Gutters, Septic Tanks, Portable Showers, Shower Curtains, Small Hardware, Flashlights, etc.

We Have the Famous

### **Sherwin-Williams Kem-Tone**

with their Complete Line of Other Paints  
Plus American Seal Paint, Oil and Turps.

*Imperial Washable Wall Papers    LePage Pastes and Glues*

PURCHASE NOW WHILE MATERIALS ARE STILL AVAILABLE

*Compliments of*

## SERVICE PHARMACY

CANAAN, CONNECTICUT

*Compliments of*

**ROGERS'  
SHOE STORE**

*Canaan, Conn.*

*Compliments of*

**Community Service, Inc.**

*Canaan, Conn.*

*Compliments of*

**Ried's Cleaners & Dyers**

*Great Barrington, Mass.*

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Whitney  
Hilton I. Whitney (U.S.A.F.)  
Roger A. Whitney (U.S.A.F.)  
Whitney's Motor Shop

---

Mr. and Mrs. Edward S. Fenn  
Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon E. Fenn  
"Fenn's Farm," Hartsville

---

Compliments of  
MR. AND MRS. HARRY B. ALEXANDER  
MRS. RAMONA ALEXANDER BETTS

---

Compliments of  
CAPTAIN AND MRS. DUDLEY TURNER  
AND COURTLAND TURNER

---

Compliments of  
Mr. Joseph Sheeran                      Miss Katherine Sheeran  
and Miss Mary Sheeran

---

Compliments of  
MR. AND MRS. WALLACE W. HALL  
Pfc. Philip Hall                      LESLIE W. HALL

---

Compliments of  
SCOTT'S, Incorporated  
*Wearing Apparel for Men and Boys*

---

Compliments of  
UMPACHENE FARM  
Mill River, Mass.

---

Compliments of  
MRS. JULIUS A. TURNER

---

Compliments of  
MRS. FLORA MILLER AND JUNE MILLER

---

Compliments of  
CARROLL'S POULTRY FARM

---

Compliments of  
FASSETT'S STORE, GREAT BARRINGTON

*Compliments*  
*of*  
BERKSHIRE  
OIL CO.

---

*Compliments of*

HUTTON & HEIGHT, Inc.

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

---

*Compliments of*

CASSIDY'S DRUG STORE

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

*Fuller  
Hardware  
Company*

CANAAN, CONNECTICUT

*A Country  
Hardware  
Store*

---

*Compliments of*

THE NATIONAL  
MAHAIWE BANK  
OF GREAT BARRINGTON  
GREAT BARRINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS



*Greetings to the Town of New Marlborough*

*Sweet & Moffat*

A S S O C I A T E S



INSURANCE  
AND  
REAL ESTATE

---

*Compliments of*

GEORGE A. KETCHEN

*Clothing, Furnishings and Shoes*

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

---

JOHN T. HARPER  
DRUG STORE

Established in 1880

311 Main St      Tel. 201

GREAT BARRINGTON

---

*Compliments of*

**Paul's Restaurant**

*Great Barrington, Mass.*

---

*Compliments of*

**E. B. VAN VORST**

*Great Barrington, Mass.*

WE CAME TO  
NEW MARLBORO  
IN 1791

*looking for a likely place  
in the Umpachene River  
to soak deer skin for tan-  
ning. And we have  
loved it here.*

Turner & Cook, Inc.

*In Memory of Ralph I. Rhoades, Sr.*

Mrs. Ralph I. Rhoades  
Mary L. Rhoades Elizabeth A. Rhoades

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Marion A. Ciceone

---

*Compliments of*

Miss Elizabeth R. Hooker

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis J. Marsh  
Lois Dorothy Eleanor

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. A. Lincoln Terry

---

*Compliments of*

Mrs. Lillian B. Spencer  
Mrs. Esther (Spencer) Karch

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. George Waters

---

*Compliments of*

Miss Kate Bird

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. William L. Rugg

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Walter P. Sardam

Greetings, New Marlborough  
on your  
Two Hundredth Birthday  
MR. AND MRS. HADLEY K. TURNER

---

*Compliments of*

MILL RIVER STORE  
MILL RIVER, MASS.

*Compliments of*

SHAKER'S STORE

MILL RIVER, MASS.

---

*Compliments of*

WILLIAM W. WUORI

CARPENTER

*Mill River, Mass.*

---

E. M. STANTON

*dealer in*

FARM MACHINERY, LUMBER, CEMENT

MILL RIVER, MASS.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

---

**THE CANAAN  
NATIONAL BANK**

CANAAN, CONNECTICUT

---

**A REGISTERED PHARMACIST  
IS ALWAYS ON HAND**

*to take care of your*  
**PRESCRIPTIONS AND DRUG STORE NEEDS**

~  
***The John M. Cassidy Drug Store***

*Near Savings Bank*

GREAT BARRINGTON

MASSACHUSETTS

---

**Jack's Restaurant**

~

**GREAT BARRINGTON**

MASS.

*Compliments of*

**Mr. and Mrs. Wm. E. Kair**

**PITTSBURGH, PENN.**

*Compliments of*

Great Barrington Coal Co.

---

*Compliments of*

John B. Hull & Son  
GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

---

*Compliments of*

A. B. Brewer & Son  
*Pure-bred Holstein Friesian Cattle*

---

*Compliments of*

"Freeman Elms"  
1744 - 1944  
EDMUND ORMSBEE

---

*Compliments of*

P. A. Brennan

---

*Compliments of*

Dr. C. C. Reed  
SOUTHFIELD, MASS.

---

*Compliments of*

Alfred A. Verchot

---

*Compliments of*

Ellen McCarthy  
DRESSMAKER

28 Church Street

Great Barrington, Mass.

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Roland W. Rugg

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. William C. Stevens  
Marilyn Kate Beverly Ann

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Willard N. Nilsen

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Stephnel J. Emprimo  
Clarissa E.

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Zenas A. Rhoades  
Mrs. Almeda G. Hawley

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Rhoades  
Barbara C. Rhoades

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Wesley M. Ward  
Marian (Ward) Straughan, Harold J. Ward

---

*Compliments of*

The Joseph Daleys

*Congratulations!*

A Long Worth-while  
Record

WE ARE SOMEWHAT YOUNGER

Established 1871



INSURANCE OF ALL KINDS

AND

REAL ESTATE SERVICE

THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE



*Wheeler & Taylor, Inc.*

MORTGAGES

BONDS

INSURANCE

REAL ESTATE



Compliments  
of  
*Southfield*  
*General*  
*Store*



Alton S. Dinan



INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE



SHEFFIELD, MASS.

Telephone 236

---

*Compliments of*

FRANCIS J. KELLY

*proprietor of*

KELLY'S EXPRESS

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

FRANK H. WRIGHT

*Attorney-at-Law*

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

---

OGDEN - BATES, Inc.

**Apparel for Men, Women and Children**

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

---

*Compliments of*

SHELDON & CORSER

MILL RIVER, MASS.

---

GORHAM & NORTON

GROCERS

*"If It's Good to Eat, We Have It"*

Best Wishes



E. B.

DOLBY

FLORIST

Great Barrington

Massachusetts

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Seymour Dribben

S. Adam Dribben

Thomas E. Rossin

---

*Compliments of*

Mr. and Mrs. Palmer J. Cook

Mrs. Martha C. (Cook) Stiles

Palmer J. Cook, Jr.

*Mr. and Mrs.  
Charles E. Wyman*

*Judith Ann and Joyce Virginia  
Wyman*



*Wyman  
Lumber Company*

*At present working 100% on  
U. S. Navy Contracts.*

*GREETINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS*  
*FROM OUR NEW*  
**CLAYTON CHURCH FRIENDS**  
Movement Beginning June, 1944

---

L. C. STANNARD  
~  
PAINTING      PAPERING  
INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR DECORATING  
~  
MILL RIVER AND LENOX

---

**The Berkshire Courier**  
ESTABLISHED IN 1834

◆   ◆  
*Printers of this History*









